

Turkish foreign minister arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — Turkish Foreign Minister Ali Bozer arrived in Amman Saturday on a two-day official visit to Jordan during which he will hold talks with Jordanian officials on the latest developments in the Gulf region. In an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Bozer said he would be honored by meeting His Majesty King Hussein and expressed hope that he would be able to evaluate the situation with Jordanian officials. Bozer said the Turkish government was in favour of solving the crisis through peaceful means. "Economic sanctions have to be implemented in due manner and after that I do not hope to have a war in the region," he said. The consequences of a war "would be disastrous for all countries in the region, not for one or two countries," he said. Bozer was received at the airport upon arrival by Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Mutazz Bihbeh, ministry officials as well as the Turkish ambassador to Jordan.

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Security Council endorses use of force to impose Iraq embargo

Saddam dismisses it as a tool of Washington

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The Security Council has cleared the way for an international armada in the Gulf to use force if necessary to uphold U.N. economic sanctions against Iraq for taking over Kuwait.

A resolution approved 13-0 with abstentions — Cuba and Yemen — was watered down with "minimum use of force" deleted.

But U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering said the authority granted was "sufficiently broad to use armed force — indeed, minimum force — depending upon the circumstances which might require it."

The vote on the U.S. initiative gave Security Council blessing to a loose military arrangement, without a U.N. flag or U.N. command, whereby navies in the region could take unspecified steps to enforce the U.N. embargo. The resolution asked countries that have responded to

Kuwait's call by sending ships to the region to coordinate their response.

Earlier, the United States agreed to drop language permitting "minimum force," at the urging of the Soviet Union and other states. But diplomats said the resolution gives broad leeway and discretion to national naval forces.

"If you have 'minimum force' there, quite clearly you open the possibility of arguing about whether the force used was minimum or not. The wording used now, 'measures commensurate to the specific circumstances,' must leave it to the judgment of the commander there," said a British Foreign Office spokesman.

The resolution's key paragraph called on U.N. members cooperating with Kuwait and with naval forces in the Gulf to use such measures commensurate to the specific circumstances as may be

necessary under the authority of the Security Council to halt all inward and outward maritime shipping in order to inspect and verify their cargoes and destinations and to ensure strict compliance with the sanctions resolution adopted on Aug. 6.

Britain's Sir Crispin Tickell said the measures called for "include such minimum use of force as may be necessary" to achieve the resolution's purpose.

Washington, in its biggest buildup since the Vietnam war, has sent more than 40 warships to the Gulf, including the battleship Wisconsin. Britain, France, the Soviet Union, the Netherlands, Australia and several Gulf states have warships in the area or on the way there.

A week of difficult negotiations spearheaded by the United States resulted in Soviet support for the resolution as a result of high-level contacts between Washington and Moscow.

The big surprise was that China also voted in favour instead of abstaining as widely predicted.

But its U.N. envoy, Li Baoyu, said he interpreted the resolution as not including the concept of force, though this was contrary to the understanding of the United States, Britain, France and some other council members.

Iraq has been accused by the United States and Britain of mounting a sanctions-busting operation involving the attempted export of oil aboard tankers and the import of a wide variety of goods, including arms.

The resolution was the fifth directed against Baghdad since its Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait and maintained the council's record of avoiding a single negative vote.

Yemen declined to participate in a vote condemning the invasion and calling for an immediate withdrawal.

Two later resolutions, declaring the "annexation" of Kuwait

null and void, and demanding that Iraq permit the departure of foreign nationals held hostage, were adopted unanimously.

Several speakers referred to the latest resolution as historic, since it was only the third time the council had endorsed the use of force to uphold its decisions.

In 1950 it recommended that U.N. members assist South Korea in repelling an invasion by communist North Korea. On a lesser scale, the council said Britain could use force to put down a 1965 unilateral declaration of independence by the colony of Rhodesia, now the independent African nation of Zimbabwe.

Council members are already considering a possible resolution in response to the threatened closure of embassies in Kuwait, which Baghdad now considers an integral part of Iraq.

Iraqi Ambassador Abdul Al



Austrian President Kurt Waldheim with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in Baghdad on Saturday (Photo by Yousef Al 'Aban)

Waldheim: Saddam willing to end crisis peacefully

Iraq unconditionally frees Austrians

By Abdullah Hasanat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Austrian President Kurt Waldheim flew out of Baghdad Saturday with a group of Austrians held in Iraq and reported that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was "still willing to settle (the Gulf crisis) peacefully."

The Iraqi leader "repeatedly expressed his wish to work out a negotiated settlement. That he made very clear," the Austrian president told reporters at Marka airport upon his return from Baghdad aboard a special Iraqi Airways plane, which also carried about 100 Austrians who were earlier denied permission to leave by the Iraqi authorities.

The Austrians, who were stranded in Kuwait and Iraq after Baghdad's takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2, were part of the 13,000 plus Westerners

who, Iraq said, were being held back in Iraq as a deterrent against a potential American attack.

Waldheim, who arrived here Friday evening and held talks with His Majesty King Hussein before leaving for Baghdad early Saturday, said Saddam had told him that despite the American rejection of his peace initiatives, "he is still willing to settle the matter peacefully."

The Austrian leader, who said he would also try to intercede on behalf of other Westerners held in Iraq, reported that Saddam "took note of the request (to free all Westerners), and said he will keep it in mind, but could not give an immediate reply."

The Austrians who flew in on the Iraqi Airways plane named Salah Ul Din (Saladin) were whisked away to a waiting Austrian plane while Wal-

heim, who was met by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, spoke to the press.

Waldheim, a former secretary general of the United Nations who has built excellent personal relations with most Arab leaders, including Saddam, said two Austrians remained in Iraq "for business reasons."

The Austrian president said Saddam was informed of the adoption by the Security Council of a resolution endorsing use of force to impose sanctions against Iraq during his meeting in Baghdad Saturday. "He was not surprised," Waldheim said. "He was aware that such a decision might take place."

Crown Prince Hassan escorted Waldheim to the Royal Palace for a brief stay

U.N. resolution forecloses diplomatic option — Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Security Council resolution endorsing use of force to impose an embargo on Iraq forecloses a diplomatic solution to the Gulf crisis, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said.

The Crown Prince also called on Europe to take a closer look at the basic issues that led to instability in the Middle East and triggered the Gulf crisis.

"As far as we have observed in the last several decades, there has always been in the West a search for a villain like (the late Iranian leader Ayatollah) Khomeini, (the late Egyptian) President (Jamal) Nasser, Colonel (Muammar) Qadhafi (of Libya) and Saddam Hussein of Iraq," the Crown Prince said in an interview with British Broadcasting Corporation television. "The time has really come to look at the root causes of the instability in this region, at disparities, the haves and have-nots, (and) the whole question of mass destruction," he said. "Let us initiate a process of coopera-

tion over security and human matters in Europe for the next decade."

The Crown Prince also reaffirmed Jordan's strict adherence to United Nations resolutions and its rejection of occupation of territory by force.

Answering a question, he said Jordan was continuing its efforts at the Arab level to contain the Gulf crisis, but warned against isolating Iraq or threatening it with pressure. The result of such pressures, he said, will be a "reaction of Samson in the temple."

"I think that with the strangulation, with the total embargo, using military force forecloses not only the diplomatic option ... as the escalation continues, even the crisis over embassy closures (ordered by Iraq in Kuwait) can be considered part of the escalation," he said.

Following are parts of the interview:

Question: Are Jordan's current diplomatic efforts principally to

avert war or do they have the shorter term of easing the pressure of sanctions on Iraq and the effects on Jordan?

Answer: The effort to avert war and to get the whole topic back into its essential components, that is the status of Kuwait and Security Council resolution without an Arab League context. Without other effects we can dwell on the military forces in the region. I think we have really to focus on essentials and time is ticking on.

Q: How much pressure are you able to exert on countries at the United Nations over the question of the use of minimum force and what are you trying to achieve on the question of using minimum force to impose sanctions?

A: We said from the outset that capitulation or escalation cannot be a solution as both lead to tremendous acrimony. I think with the strangulation and total embargo and using military force,

U.N. chief invites Aziz to urgent talks

BOGOTA, Colombia (Agencies) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Saturday that he has invited Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz to open urgent talks to resolve the crisis in the Gulf.

Reading a statement to journalists, Perez de Cuellar said the talks could begin next week in New York or Geneva.

"I believe that after the resolutions adopted by the Security Council, the time has come for the secretary-general to begin diplomatic efforts to alleviate the present crisis in the Gulf in all aspects, through the process of dialogue," the statement said.

"As a result of this, today I have invited Tariq Aziz to meet with me in New York or Geneva

to begin next week a discussion about the crisis in the 'Persian' Gulf," he added.

Iraq took over Kuwait on Aug. 2 in a dispute over oil, money and land. The U.N. Security Council ordered economic sanctions Aug. 6 and early Saturday approved military force to enforce the boycott.

The written statement did not say whether Iraq accepted the offer.

Perez de Cuellar said later he had asked Aziz to urgently meet him for a "full exchange of views."

"The moment has arrived in which the secretary-general has to make a personal effort to see

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Journalists urge continued efforts to free hostages

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Journalists Committee to Free Terry Anderson has welcomed the release of Irish hostage Brian Keenan and thanked all those involved with seeking the release of another hostage in Lebanon.

"Again we ask, on behalf of all the remaining hostages in Lebanon, that all parties who have influence in this matter continue their efforts until these men are free and reunited with their loved ones," the committee said in a statement telefaxed to the Jordan Times. "We ask this of you in the name of mercy, humanity, compassion — in the spirit of Islam," it added.

Moscow, Baghdad at odds over U.N. move

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze Saturday told Iraq to take heed of the strengthened U.N. Security Council embargo and pull back from its brinkmanship in the Gulf crisis.

"We hope that the Iraqi leadership will draw the appropriate conclusions (from the United Nations resolutions) and take measures to de-escalate the crisis," Shevardnadze said in an interview with the official TASS news agency.

"That is our advice to the Iraqi leadership," he said.

The call reinforced a strongly-

worded message to Baghdad from President Mikhail Gorbachev Friday in which the Soviet leader warned Iraq it would face "additional measures" if it did not obey U.N. resolutions to withdraw from Kuwait.

Shevardnadze said Moscow had not broken off contact with the Iraqi leadership of President Saddam Hussein for one day.

"All this work was focussed on one thing, to find a way out of this critical situation caused by Iraq's aggression."

The U.N. decision was "an action aimed at preventing a

Iraq warns U.S. of disaster if it attacks

NICOSIA (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, facing foreign journalists for the first time since his invasion of Kuwait, warned the United States Saturday of endless columns of bodies if it attacked.

"We want peace," he told reporters accompanying Austrian President Kurt Waldheim on a trip of Baghdad — the first by a Western head of state since the Aug. 2 take-over.

"But if the United States attacks, there will be columns of dead bodies which may have a beginning but will have no end," he said through a translator.

He was speaking before his talks with Waldheim during which he said all Austrians trapped in Iraq and Kuwait could go home.

Saddam said the 13,000 Westerners trapped in Iraq and Kuwait were not a shield for Iraq to hide

behind but were a guarantee that no attack could be launched.

He showed no discomfiture during the televised news conference, denying that the Arab League had condemned his actions and saying the majority of Arabs were behind him.

He repeated his defence that Kuwait was historically part of Iraq and had been created by Britain to deny Iraq access to the sea.

"Didn't you in the foreign press make fun of the Kuwaiti rulers in France, in Europe, you spoke of the bad example they set sitting around gambling tables, wasting millions."

"This is the type of Arab character which (U.S. President George) Bush wants to bring back to rule Kuwait," Saddam said.

(Continued on page 4)

Ghozali meets Hamadi in Iraq

NICOSIA (R) — Algerian Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali, in Iraq to discuss the Gulf crisis, met Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saadoun Hamadi Saturday, Baghdad Radio said.

The ministers reviewed Arab and international developments, the radio said without giving details.

Iraq said Friday that Ghozali told President Saddam Hussein that Algeria backed Iraq's "noble war against imperialism and its allies."

Dumas arrives in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas arrived in Moscow Saturday for talks with his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze on German unification and the Gulf crisis, TASS news agency said.

Massive airlift of Egyptians under way

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanian officials heaved a sigh of relief Saturday as a massive airlift began of Egyptians stranded in the Kingdom after crossing over from Iraq, amid signs that Jordan was able to handle the situation as long as the daily flow of foreigners across the border remained at around 20,000.

A conservative estimate put the number of Egyptians who were unable to get places aboard ferry boats from Aqaba across the Red Sea to Nuweibeh and remaining at various points between the northeastern border point at Al Ruweished and the southern port at over 40,000 on Friday, and at least 3,000 were airlifted from Aqaba by Saturday evening. The process was con-

tinuing late into the night while ferry boats carried about 4,500, Egyptian sources said.

"Our biggest concern was over Egyptians, and it seems that things are getting slowly organised now," said a senior official.

"It might take several days before the entire backlog is cleared, but at least the process has begun to be streamlined," the official added.

Saudia, the national carrier of Saudi Arabia, sent at least six planes to dramatically increase the number of Egyptians being flown home from Jordan, reports said. In addition, Belgium was sending two C-130 Hercules transport aircraft. One of the Belgian planes landed here Saturday evening, and will be used to transport Egyptians from Aqaba to Cairo, European officials said.

The European Community

(EC) was sending a team of doctors and a plane load of medicines and tents to Jordan, a European diplomat said. "It is over and above the (\$1.32 million) aid the community has already pledged to the evacuation process," the diplomat said.

According to the diplomat, the team, drawn from the relief organisation Medicus Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders), was expected to land in Amman late Saturday. The team will set up base near the Ruweished port, he added.

The EC has already started an airlift of Egyptians, who represent the largest expatriate community in Iraq with 1.6 million before Iraq took over Kuwait on Aug. 2. The EC operations were continuing Saturday and Sunday with planes chartered from Royal Jordanian.

Spain was sending a plane load of emergency supplies but it was not clear whether it was part of the EC contribution or whether the C-130

plane carrying the supplies will be involved in the airlift operation.

The International Committee of the Red Cross sent tents, water tanks and sanitation equipment to help the evacuation process after the Jordanian Red Crescent requested assistance, a spokesman said in Geneva.

The Red Cross has already set up centres near the border.

Officials said the flow of evacuees through the border post was more or less under control after the government expanded the number of officials assigned to the operations and set up specialised panels to tackle various aspects of the process.

Although some officials said there was a marked decline in the number of people arriving at Ruweished Saturday compared with Friday, several Third World diplomatic missions said they could not ascertain whether there was a real reduction until after they clear a huge backlog.

(Continued on page 3)

APPEAL

MILK & MEDICINE FOR THE CHILDREN OF IRAQ

An appeal directed to the human conscience all over the world, starting from Jordan.

From the children of Jordan to fathers and mothers wherever they are.

The children of Jordan from the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) who are aware there is still a responsive human conscience appeal to all citizens in Jordan, to the local, Arab, regional and international organisations and institutions and the world child organisations and to leaders of the world's countries to end injustice against the children of Iraq who are threatened with being deprived of bread, milk and medicine.

The children of Jordan demand all to implement the principles of the international declaration on children's rights which provides for protecting and taking care of children under all circumstances, in all times and in the days of war and peace alike. The principles of the international declaration on the children's rights by which all the world abide by linking between these rights and the child's basic needs. The declaration's provisions under articles No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10 guarantee the protection and welfare of children as well as social, food, and educational security and their right to grow up in healthy conditions in the times of war, peace and disasters.

The children of Jordan appeal for providing milk, food and medicine supplies for the children of Iraq.

This appeal comes on the eve of convening the world summit for children in which many leaders of the world's countries will take part to protect childhood.

As we head our call from the General Union of Voluntary Services in Jordan we appeal to fathers and mothers to respond favourably to this call. Let us share our food together.

Cash and in-kind donations are received at the following centres:
The General Union of Voluntary Societies - Jabal Luweibdeh, Tel. 634001, 634009, 630398.

GUVS - Amman Governorate	Tel. 639555
GUVS - Irbid Governorate	(02)242518
GUVS - Zarqa Governorate	(09)981712
GUVS - Balqa Governorate	(05)555285
GUVS - Karak Governorate	(03)351169
GUVS - Ma'an Governorate	(03)32477
Aqaba Islamic Charitable Society-Aqaba	(03)316130
GUVS - Tafilah Governorate	(03)342365
GUVS - Mafrqa Governorate	(04)432040

Donations are received daily until 7:00 p.m.

Yemen expels British consul

SANAA (R) — Yemen ordered out Britain's consul-general Saturday, saying he had been caught taking pictures of a refinery and military sites.

Britain summoned Yemen's ambassador in London to protest at the expulsion of Doug Gordon and denied he was engaged in activities incompatible with his diplomatic status.

A Yemeni government spokesman told Reuters that Gordon had been arrested Friday and given 48 hours to leave.

"He was involved in acts that do not conform with the mission for which he was accepted as a consul-general in Aden," the spokesman said, without elaborating.

Informed sources said the British diplomat was taking pictures of the Aden refinery and unspecified military sites from a hill overlooking the strategic Bab Al Mandeb Strait.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said Friday an Iraqi tanker, the 'Ain Zaleh, unloaded oil in Aden this week despite a U.N. trade embargo against Baghdad for its Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

He described the unloading of oil as illegal under the U.N. sanctions resolution.

Yemeni officials said the 'Ain Zaleh, carrying 20,000 tonnes of Iraqi crude, stopped unloading five hours after it docked at Aden Tuesday morning.

Yemen Saturday denied reports that Iraqi planes were picking up food from it in violation of the sanctions. An information ministry official said Yemen was "strictly complying with international legality, including trade sanctions."

The U.N. Security Council voted Saturday to allow navies in the Gulf to use force if necessary to maintain the trade blockade against Iraq, Yemen and Cuba abstained.

A British Foreign Office spokesman said Yemeni Ambassador Ahmad Abdo Rageh had been summoned to see Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave.

"The consul-general says neither he nor his staff has been indulging in any activities that we would construe as incompatible with his status," the spokesman said.

DFLP split over policy differences

NICOSIA (R) — The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), one of the main groups under the PLO umbrella, has reported a split in its ranks with its two main leaders openly trading accusations.

The Syrian-based faction has for many months pined over internal policy differences, with DFLP deputy leader Yasser Abed Rabbo shifting towards the more moderate line of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

But PLO sources told Reuters any semblance of unity had been destroyed by the Gulf crisis, mirroring the rift in Palestinian ranks over whether to back Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

Abed Rabbo's supporters say the DFLP's leader Nayef Hawatmeh was "too close" to Syria's anti-Arafat policies.

"We refuse to join regional

alliances and the PLO's unity is our first priority," an Abed Rabbo aide told Reuters.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, a long-time foe of Iraq's Saddam Hussein, joined the majority of Arab states at a summit in Cairo earlier this month in calling for unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

He also sent troops to join Arab and Western forces deployed in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf to thwart a possible Iraqi attack.

The PLO had voted against the summit resolution and Abed Rabbo flew to Baghdad Friday after condemning the Syrian stance, the sources said.

"Those who voted for Arab League resolutions are providing a legitimate cover for foreign intervention in Arab affairs," he said.

Abed Rabbo led the PLO's side to the 18-month dialogue with the United States on a Middle East settlement. Washington froze the talks last June after Arafat failed to condemn a sea raid against Israel.

The PLO sources said Hawatmeh, angered by the policies of Abed Rabbo, has withheld funds to his group based in Tunisia.

Abed Rabbo accused Hawatmeh of ordering the occupation of the movement's camps and offices in Syria and expelling his supporters.

But Hawatmeh said his deputy was looking for a pretext to create a split in the group, which was formed in 1969.

"Some separatists attempted during recent days to attack the group's information bureau, the military office and another bureau at one of the Palestinian

camps in Damascus," Hawatmeh's supporters said in a statement sent to Reuters in Cyprus.

"These attempts were foiled by the comrades working in these offices," it added.

The politburo regrets that comrade Yasser Abed Rabbo is trying to give a political cover for these childish actions after they were foiled."

In his statement issued from Tunis Abed Rabbo said Hawatmeh's actions affected his supporters in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Two pro-Hawatmeh guards were killed in a gunfight in Tunis last Friday and Palestinian sources said it was sparked by an argument between the two men. Tunisian police are reported to have made several arrests.

Abed Rabbo's statement did not mention the incident specifically but called on Hawatmeh to "halt self-destructive actions."

'Iraq sends fighters to Sudan and Yemen'

CAIRO (R) — Iraq has sent an unspecified number of jet fighters to Yemen and Sudan as a strategic reserve in case of war with U.S.-led forces in the Gulf, Egyptian military sources said Saturday.

"The planes were flown to Yemen and Sudan last week... as a strategic reserve in case the United States destroys Iraqi air bases," one source said.

Sudan and Yemen have refused to condemn Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

A United Arab Emirates newspaper Saturday reported that Iraq had deployed long-range Scud missiles and launchers on Sudan's east coast from which they could hit Saudi Arabia's Red Sea ports and shipping.

The sources discounted the Al Fajr report on the Scuds. The paper had said Egypt was aware of the redeployment.

Sudan and Yemen abstained when a majority of Arab leaders voted on Aug. 10 for a resolution condemning Iraq and ordering the dispatch of an Arab force to help "defend" Saudi Arabia.

The sources could not give details on numbers or types of warplanes sent to Yemen and

Sudan and said they thought the jets would be used only as a reserve.

Yemen denied Friday that any Iraqi warplanes were based on its territory.

Al-Fajr said the planes with missiles and launchers landed at Wadi Sidra military airport north of Sudan's capital of Khartoum on Aug. 2, the day Iraqi troops entered Kuwait.

It said the Iraqi missiles and personnel were stationed at military bases in East Sudan, close to the Red Sea.

The paper said Egyptian intelligence also knew of the missile deployment.

Earlier this week Paul Beaver, publisher of the respected Jane's defence weekly, said Iraq had up to 36 modified Scud-B missile launchers in Kuwait.

U.S. officials and intelligence sources Friday cast doubt on the reported deployment in Kuwait which would bring Saudi Arabia's Dhahran airbase and capital Riyadh within range.

Authoritative U.S. officials briefing reporters with the U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia said military intelligence reports did not indicate Iraq had moved Scud missiles to Kuwait.

Britain should review relations with Iran and Syria — minister

LONDON (R) — Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave said Saturday Britain should review its relations with Syria and Iran in the light of shifting alliances in the Middle East over the Gulf crisis.

It was the first hint by a senior British minister that the government could be ready to restore severed ties with the two countries.

"I think one of the side effects of the changing kaleidoscope of Middle Eastern alliances may be that there will be some benefit in the resolution of the problems we have had with those two countries," Waldegrave told British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Radio's Today programme.

London broke off relations with Damascus in 1986 citing evidence of Syrian involvement in an attempt to blow up an Israeli airliner at London's Heathrow airport.

Tehran cut diplomatic relations with London in March last year amid a diplomatic row which erupted after the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini ordered

Muslims around the world to kill British author Salman Rushdie for blaspheming Islam.

Waldegrave, speaking after Irish hostage Brian Keenan was handed to Syria by his pro-Iranian Lebanese kidnappers following Iranian mediation, said "relations with both those countries do need careful review."

He added: "We do still have problems, but I think we must find ways of talking properly about the situation in the region with those countries."

Three Britons are missing and believed held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon.

The British government has made normalisation of relations with Tehran contingent on progress on securing the release of Church of England envoy Terry Waite, television journalist John McCarthy and retired pilot Jack Mann.

Britain has maintained that Syria must show sustained evidence of abandoning support for "terrorism" before relations can be restored.

Text of U.N. embargo enforcement resolution

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Following is the English language text of the Security Council resolution authorising military action to halt all maritime trade with Iraq:

The Security Council, Recalling its Resolutions 660 (1990), 661 (1990), 662 (1990), 663 (1990) and 664 (1990) and demanding their full and immediate implementation;

Having decided to impose sanctions in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations;

Determined to bring an end to the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq which imperils the existence of a member state and to restore the legitimate authority and the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Kuwait which requires the speedy implementation of the above resolutions;

Deplored the loss of innocent life stemming from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and determined to prevent further such losses; Gravely alarmed that Iraq continues to refuse to comply with Resolutions 660 (1990), 661 (1990), 662 (1990) and 664 (1990) and in particular at the conduct of the government of Iraq in using Iraqi flag vessels to export oil;

1. Calls upon those member states cooperating with the government of Kuwait which are deploying maritime forces to the

area to use such measures commensurate to the specific circumstances as may be necessary under the authority of the security council to halt all inward and outward maritime shipping in order to inspect and verify their cargoes and destinations and to ensure strict implementation of the provisions related to such shipping laid down in (sanctions) Resolution 661 (1990);

2. Invites member states accordingly to cooperate as may be necessary to ensure compliance with the provisions of Resolution 661 (1990) with maximum use of political and diplomatic measures, in accordance with paragraph 1 above;

3. Requests all states to provide in accordance with the charter such assistance as may be required by the states referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution;

4. Further requests the states concerned to coordinate their actions in pursuit of the above paragraphs of this resolution using as appropriate mechanisms of the military staff committee and after consultation with the secretary-general to submit reports to the Security Council and its committee established under Resolution 661 (1990) to facilitate the monitoring of the implementation of this resolution.

5. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

Freed hostage says he saw other captives

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Looking pale, but otherwise physically fit, freed Irish hostage Brian Keenan said Saturday he had seen American hostage Terry Anderson and other Westerners during his four-year captivity in Lebanon.

Keenan, 39, was turned over to Irish Foreign Minister Gerry Collins Saturday, almost 24 hours after he was freed by his captors.

"I saw Terry Anderson some time ago," Keenan said, without specifying how long ago that was.

"He's in good form. He received messages from his fiancée and he appreciates the letters that he received from his family."

"He has a picture of his daughter, Sulome, which is some great companionship for him," Keenan told a crowded news conference at the home of the Dutch Ambassador Gerben Mweihuizen.

Anderson has never seen his daughter, Sulome, five, who was born almost three months after he was kidnapped on March 16, 1985.

Keenan also said he spent a lot of time with British hostage Terry Waite and John McCarthy and both were in good health and spirits.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa officially handed Keenan over to Collins who flew to Damascus with the former captive's sisters.

Keenan, wearing a safari suit and sunglasses, hugged his sisters who burst into tears of joy as they saw him coming at the Syrian Foreign Ministry.

Anderson, 42, the Middle East bureau chief of the Associated Press news agency, is the longest held of the 12 remaining Western hostages in Lebanon.

He was kidnapped March 16, 1985. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility.

Sutherland, 59, the dean of agriculture at the American University of Beirut, was seized June 9 the same year, also by Islamic Jihad.

Keenan would not elaborate on the conditions of his captivity or that of the others. But he said: "On my way here, I thought of what I was going to do."

"And finally, I said to myself I would eat all the food in the world, drink all the drink in the world and make love to all the women in the world and then maybe I'll get a good night sleep."

Israel expects U.S. help if attacked by Iraq

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens said Saturday he expected the United States to help Israel in the event of an Iraqi attack.

"I cannot speak in the name of the United States, but I assume that if a battle explodes and Israel is attacked we will not stand alone," Arens said.

"One of the advantages of (Gulf) crisis is that the real face of (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein was revealed to all. What Israel knew all along is now known in Washington, Paris, London and Tokyo," he told Israeli Radio in an interview.

Last week an Israeli defence analyst said Iraq had moved a number of Hussein missiles to the west of Baghdad. The missile with a range of 600 kilometres, could reach Israeli cities.

Saddam said earlier this year he would burn half of Israel with chemical weapons if the Jewish state attacked any Arab country.

On Aug. 9 Israel tested its U.S.-financed Arrow air defence missile designed to knock out surface-to-surface missiles. Air force officials have said the surface-to-air Arrow was Israel's answer to the threat of Iraqi

Syrian missiles armed with chemical and conventional warheads.

Full-scale production of the Arrow could begin by 1995.

Israel has maintained a low-profile since the Iraqi take-over. Arens said Iraqi missiles could reach Israeli territory in four minutes.

"In the age of missiles, theoretically a missile attack is one against which, for all practical purposes, there is no deterrent."

"The flight time for a missile from Iraq to Israel is about four minutes and there is no reason we should assume that we can receive advance warning within those four minutes," Arens said.

Foreign reports say Israel has nuclear arms and Israeli Science Minister Yuval Neeman said recently the country was capable of producing chemical weapons.

For the second consecutive day Arens questioned U.S. arms supplies to Saudi Arabia which is technically at war with Israel.

"When a country like Saudi Arabia... gets weapons, this is a threat even if not an immediate one."

Battle over Kuwait embassies turns into war of nerves

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Isolated diplomats, stripped of their immunity at midnight, stubbornly manned embassies in Kuwait Saturday in defiance of Iraqi demands, backed by troops, to shut them.

Fears that Baghdad's pressure on the diplomatic posts could produce an immediate flashpoint in the Gulf crisis eased when a senior official said Iraq would not use force to close them.

A war of nerves took its place. Najj Al Hadithi, director of information in Baghdad, told Reuters in a telephone interview: "For the time being there is no use of force and I do not think there will be any use of force."

"But they (diplomats) will enjoy no privileges, services, or facilities."

Iraqi soldiers, some armed with machine guns and mortars, were outside many embassies. Electricity, water and telephones were cut off at some missions, but there was no effort to remove diplomatic personnel by force, according to reports reaching foreign ministries in a number of countries.

In London, Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave said more than 30 embassies were still functioning in Kuwait. He said electric power at the British embassy had been cut off after being restored earlier in the day.

The embassy was surrounded by troops but morale of the four remaining staff was "extremely high," Waldegrave said.

Similar reports were received in Paris, Rome, Vienna, and Tokyo, although the numbers of soldiers outside the compounds varied.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA), reported Friday that families of diplomats would be allowed to leave. But, the report added, all male embassy employees, including diplomats, would be prevented from leaving until their countries comply with the Iraqi order to close the embassies.

Electricity to the U.S. embassy in Kuwait was cut off but Iraqi troops around the U.S. compound have not attempted to close the diplomatic mission, U.S. officials said.

Water and other supplies for the embassy were not cut off, but Iraq says the embassies no longer have a diplomatic function, since Kuwait was now part of Iraq.

More than two dozen governments have said their missions in Kuwait would stay open to look after nationals trapped in the country.

Some 60 countries have diplomatic representation in Kuwait City. Jordan and India are among a handful who have announced they would close their missions. The Soviet Union said its embassy was empty but this did not mean Moscow recognised Iraq's move into Kuwait.

Italian held in Kuwait, appealing for news on their fate, have asked to meet Saddam, the Iraqi Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

The ministry released the text of a letter entitled "Open letter from Italians in Kuwait" which had been handed to Rome's ambassador in Baghdad by citizens who fled Kuwait earlier this week.

The evacuees said the letter had been given to them by members of the 120-strong Italian community.

"We ask Hussein to let us meet him personally because he has involved us (in the crisis) and because we want to talk about what we see as a just and a lanced solution to the problem."

Janet Ross and Dr. Mohammad Mattar

would like to express their deep sorrow for the demise of

Cathrine Ross Ermon

daughter of Mrs. and Mr. Hugh G. Ross who died of natural causes at the age of 33. She is survived by her husband Mike Ermon and her three children Katelyn, Mike Jr. and Keri Lynn.

May God Bless Her Soul

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 77311-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:45	Programme review
15:55	Children programme
17:10	Football
18:00	News summary
18:10	Local programme
19:50	Programme review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
21:30	Programme review
21:45	Local programme
22:00	News summary in Arabic
PROGRAMME TWO	
17:55	Cartoons
18:30	Raffish Bike
18:30	Documentary
19:00	News in French
19:15	French varieties
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Varieties programme
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Hey Dad
21:10	Documentary
22:00	News in English
22:28	Mandela
PRAYER TIMES	
04:40	Fajr
06:02	(Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:37	Dhuhr
16:15	Asr
19:13	Maghrib
20:35	Isha

CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetfish, Tel. 810740	
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624990	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440	
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Terrence Church Tel. 622366	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625541	
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 771331	
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751	
Assunta International Church Tel. 685326	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
It will be fair and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.	
Min./Max. temp.	
Amman 17 / 28	

EMERGENCIES	
Civil Defence Department 661111	
Civil Defence Emergency 63041	
Price Complaints 199	
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777	
Fire Brigade 891228	
Blood Bank 775121	
Highway Police 843402	
Traffic Police 896390	
Public Security Department 630321	
Hotel Complaints 605800	
Price Complaints 661176	
Water and Sewerage 661176	
Complaints 897467	
Amman Municipality 623101	
Central Amman Telephone 623101	
Abdullah Telephone Repairs 661101	
Jordan Television 773111	
Radio Jordan 680100	
Water Authority 815615	
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615	
Electric Power Company 636381	

HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Hussain Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn	644281/6
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn	64241/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Malasia, J. Amman	636114
Palestine, Shmeisani	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Muhammar Hospital	66727/9
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhammar	77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	77111/26
Army, Marka	891611/5
Oman Ali Hospital	602240/50
Amal Hospital	674155
ZARQA:	
Zarqa Gov. Hospital	(09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital	(09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital	(09)989752
IBED:	
Princess Basma Hospital	(02)725555
Greek Catholic Hospital	(02)727275
Ibn Al-Nafies Hospital	(02)747100
AQABA:	
Princess Haya Hospital	(03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (09)53200-5, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
09:45	Doha (RJ)
10:00	Jeddah (RJ)
10:30	Cairo (RJ)
10:30	

Seminar targets media coverage of Gulf crisis

By Ali Masarwah
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Western media coverage of the current Gulf crisis and ways to counter biased news and stereotypes were the main issues discussed at a seminar which was held at the centre of the Jordanian Writers Association Saturday evening.

The seminar, which was attended by members of the writers association, journalists and other media representatives, is part of a project entitled "a week of struggle against American imperialism aggression," organised by the council committee of the labour unions and the Jordanian Writers Association.

Hashem Khreisat, chairman of the Jordan Press Association, Dr. Saadi Dabur, chairman of the cultural committee of the labour unions, Tariq Masarwah, a columnist and political commentator, the Jordan Writers Association president discussed the nature of Western media coverage of the events in the Gulf, its historic background and its impact on Arabs and public opinion in the world.

"The role of the media in the West is different than what one would expect it to be; instead of expressing the people's thoughts and beliefs, they (the Western media) are actually creating public opinion in accordance with the interests of the political elite," Masarwah said. He added that portraying Arabs as being either

terrorists or decadent oil sheikhs is a continuation of the West's negative image of which has been nourished by the West for centuries.

"The West has been conducting a campaign against Iraq since the seventies, and it has not eased the pressure since then," Dr. Dabur, the coordinator of the seminar said. "The only occasion on which the Western media treated Iraq fairly was during the Gulf war when it was in the West's interest not to see Iraq losing the war against Iraq," he maintained.

Problems facing the Arab media in covering the Gulf crisis were also touched upon during the seminar. The inability of Arab television networks and Arab newspapers to report objectively about the situation in the Gulf is because virtually all footage of the events is being obtained from Western news agencies and TV stations, according to the speakers.

"Until we find the means of presenting the Arab cause to the West in an unbiased manner, the only way of changing public opinion in the U.S. is to inflict heavy casualties on the U.S. forces (in the Gulf) as was the case in Vietnam. It was only after America had lost some 50,000 soldiers that public pressure made the continuation of U.S. involvement in Vietnam impossible," Masarwah concluded.

Another seminar on the economic blockade of Iraq and its impact on the region is scheduled to be held Monday evening.

Over 1.059m students start school Saturday

AMMAN (J.T.) — More than 1,059 million students in the primary, preparatory and secondary school stages went to school Saturday at the start of the new 1990-1991 scholastic year, but some of them have not received all the textbooks, part of which is given free by the Ministry of Education.

The ministry had reported that nearly 48,000 men and women teachers were involved in teaching the students at the kindergarten and the other levels, and that more than 3,728 schools run by the private and public sectors have been made available for the new school year.

The ministry has distributed most of the books to the schools, but certain books are reported to be lacking for the sixth elementary grade and the first secondary classes. The ministry has been in the practice of distributing books free of charge to the students of the compulsory stage. It charges those in the secondary

schools only the cost of the books for their different courses without making any profits.

Last week the Ministry of Education announced that expatriate children would also be accepted in Jordanian schools this year in view of the difficulties they encounter in returning home to the Gulf, especially in Kuwait.

Ministry officials said that strenuous efforts were being made to accommodate the additional numbers of students in Jordanian schools.

Thousands of Jordanian expatriates and Kuwaiti nationals have been spending the summer holiday in Jordan and the occupied West Bank when Iraq took over Kuwait on Aug. 2, 1990.

For the first time in years, the Ministry of Education issued instructions that only those students able to buy school uniforms were required to wear them at school. In earlier years wearing of uniforms was mandatory for all students at all school stages.

Labour unions rally in solidarity with Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — The Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions (FJLU) Saturday evening organised at the Roman Amphitheatre in downtown Amman a public rally to express solidarity with Iraq.

Speakers at the rally, the secretary-general of the FJLU, and presidents of the Iraqi and the Palestinian labour unions delivered speeches in which they hailed His Majesty King Hussein, the government and the people of Jordan and expressed appreciation for the King's stand in defending the Arab cause.

The speakers condemned foreign intervention in the Gulf region and affirmed that the crisis should be solved within the Arab context. They emphasised the stand of the Arab working class beside Iraq in countering threats facing it.

They also called for increasing production and reducing consumption and asked citizens and merchants not to store food supplies.

FILU announced at the end of the rally that it decided to donate one day's salary to support Iraq's steadfastness, offering all the federation's capabilities to help Iraq and calling citizens to volunteer to defend Iraq.

The Iraqi poetess Iqbal Faleeh read poems at the rally in which she lauded Jordan's national stand in supporting Iraq. In Al Hashimiyya township, in the Zarqa Governorate, citizens organised a march to voice their support for King Hussein's stand and in support of Iraq.

Several parliamentarians addressed the marchers and commended the stand of King Hussein and his efforts to solve the Arab crisis within an Arab framework. They also denounced foreign intervention in the Arab Gulf region.

Department to help human resources development

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Planning Khalid Amin Abdullah said that his ministry had created a special department to deal with human resource development.

The department aims at developing recruitment and labour force and building technical capacities, through two projects. The first, a two-year project, designed to build integrated information system of the local labour market, is cofinanced by the government and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The government's contribution is JD 70,000 while that of the UNDP is \$500,000. The project, which will be completed in October 1991, involves the undertaking of important studies on the effects of economic adjustment on employment, increasing job opportunities in the short run, and striking a balance between the local market needs and the higher education output.

The second project, which constitutes the basis for the new department's work, deals with the development of human resources it started in October and will be completed in Oct. 1982.

The three-year project is cofinanced by the government and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). The government's contribution is JD 42,000 while the fund's contribution will be \$218,000.

The project seeks to build the technical capacities needed to draw up integrated strategies on labour force and employment. It also seeks to achieve coordination and integration between the demographic changes and the socio-economic development plans.

Parliament sets up emergency committee

AMMAN (J.T.) — A standing emergency committee, set up by Parliament to follow up developments in the Gulf, said Saturday that it was dispatching a parliamentary team to Turkey on Sept. 3 to discuss the situation in the Gulf.

Meeting under the chairmanship of Salim Zoubi, the committee announced also that it was sending a memorandum to the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU), calling for an APU extraordinary meeting to discuss the Gulf crisis and foreign intervention in the Gulf.

The committee last week formed delegations to visit Iran and Turkey to discuss with parliament members in the two countries issues related to development in the Gulf region.

The team going to Turkey, according to the statement, will group Taher Al Masri, Abdullah Ensour, Abdullah Akayleh and Ahmad Kofaki.

According to the statement, the committee, which will hold another meeting Sunday, reviewed preparations by the People's Army to provide training to the public and matters related to water, energy and supply.

It said that ministers responsible for these issues would be called to Parliament to give their views about the water, supply and energy situations in the Kingdom.

People's army courses start

AMMAN (Petra) — New People's army courses started Saturday in Amman and other cities of the Kingdom. One of the courses was opened Saturday at the University of Jordan and several others were opened in Zarqa Governorate by the commander of the People's Army.

Public and private sectors' employees as well as college and school students are taking part in the courses.

Zarqa Governor Mohammad Hussein Al Shobaki, chairman of the People's Army Council and the Civil Defence Committee of Zarqa, received in his office Saturday several deputies, Zarqa People's Army commander and Zarqa Civil Defence Department (CDD) director and reviewed with them issues related to the process of training citizens in the People's Army and the CDD.

In North Shuneh district several courses on civil defence for students and teaching staff in the district were opened.

In Deir Abu Saad another course for Al Koura district Education Department employees started Saturday.

In Karak Governorate the CDD opened courses for citizens in 20 centres. Taking part in these week-long courses are 1,100 citizens.

The CDD in Zarqa opened Saturday 15 courses on Civil Defence works.

Shelters, aid prepared for evacuees from Iraq

AMMAN (J.T.) — A committee formed by the government on Thursday to take charge of accommodating and transporting Arab and foreign nationals fleeing to Jordan from Kuwait and the Gulf zone, plans to set up huge camps to provide shelter for the evacuees who arrive by land through Ruweisah, the border point with Iraq, according to committee Chairman Saleem Hamad.

Hamad said that following the reopening of the border with Iraq Friday, the government was expecting at least 20,000 Arab and foreign citizens to cross into Jordanian territory each day, and therefore facilities should be made available to offer humanitarian services to them.

"Not only has the government been involved in strenuous efforts to provide help to the evacuees, but also private individuals and organisations have offered active and substantial aid to alleviate the sufferings of the expatriates who exceeded all expectations," Hamad said.

For instance, he said, the Hashemite Charitable Society alone is now caring for 10,000 expatriates at the Amman International Centre near Marj Al Hamam until arrangements have been made for their departure.

According to Hamad, by noon Saturday, there were 35,000 expatriates in Jordan, most of them Asian nationals who are awaiting planes to take them home.

He said that insufficient means of transport, especially planes, constituted the main reason for the expatriates' stay in the Kingdom.

"The committee has been in contact with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in order to secure a sufficient number of tents, expected to arrive in Amman by Saturday night," Hamad said.

The committee has been in contact with foreign embassies and various international organisations to offer help to the evacuees. Several countries, including the European Community, have responded favourably to the call, with West Germany alone flying in 4.5 tonnes of food and medical supplies and 50 tents Friday.

U.S. Ambassador Roger Harrison announced on Aug. 25 a contribution of \$275,000 directly to the Inter-Ministerial Committee dealing with the influx of displaced persons to Jordan. This contribution is part of \$1,000,000 in assistance that the United States is making available immediately to Jordan to help meet urgent humanitarian needs.

The money is intended to help with pressing problems, including water purification and medical needs. The United States is also making arrangements to immediately fly 500 tents and 15,000 water bottles to Jordan for the relief of these displaced persons. These supplies are expected to arrive in Jordan Aug. 26.

The United States has already made available 9,000 prepackaged meals to the government of Jordan.

The United States is in discussions with the International Committee of the Red Cross which is working with the Jordanian Red Crescent Society in the border area between Jordan and Iraq

where the immediate needs are the greatest.

Other governments are also providing assistance. The United States is in contact with them, the United Nations and other international organisations to provide additional assistance in the most effective and coordinated manner.

The United States continues to provide Jordan with corn and sorghum under a previous agreement. A 50,000 tonne corn shipment has just been unloaded and additional shipments of 100,000 tonnes are expected to arrive next month.

The British Embassy in Amman Saturday issued a statement saying that the London government was offering \$500,000 to help provide transit facilities for refugees entering Jordan as a result of the Gulf crisis.

"The funds will be channelled through appropriate bodies in Jordan so that they can be distributed as quickly as possible to meet urgent requirements," the statement said.

The Italian Embassy said in a press release that, following a request from the Jordanian government, the European Community would be sending cereals, powdered milk and vegetable oil while the Swedish embassy said that the ICRC would receive nearly \$1.4 million from the Swedish government to finance relief operations.

"The Swedish government will also consider participation in the relief schemes now underway within the framework of the United Nations agencies," the statement from the Swedish Embassy said.

It said that Stockholm realised the pressure on Jordan and its economy as a result of the influx of expatriates and hoped that the grant would contribute to facilitate the care and repatriation of the displaced persons. The grant would also enable Jordan to keep its border with Iraq open for humanitarian reasons.

Hamad, in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that Jordan would not predict the volume of expatriates to arrive to Jordan in the coming days because, he said, everything depended on developments in the Gulf.

Coinciding with Hamad's statement, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) announced Saturday that over 60 hours, up to noon Saturday, a total of 20,000 expatriates had left Jordan by air, benefiting from 108 unscheduled and chartered flights to Jordan by various airlines.

A CAA official said that in view of the huge number of Egyptian nationals awaiting to go home, extra flights had been arranged for Egypt Air and Royal Jordanian planes to carry them from the Amman Airport in Marka directly to Cairo.

According to CAA there also were 50 unscheduled flights at Aqaba Airport in 24 hours, up to noon Saturday.

The planes transported a total of 7,195 Egyptian and Sudanese expatriates from Aqaba to Cairo and Khartoum, the CAA said.

It said that Sudanese and Egyptian national airlines and Egyptian military transport planes had been involved in the transportation operations.

Training courses organised in south

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) Saturday announced the start of intensive training courses for job seekers in governorates of southern Jordan.

Training courses, lasting for three months each, are being offered in the fields of electricity, auto mechanics, wood work, plumbing, for the youth in Tafleeh and Karak.

VTC officials said that there were plenty of vacancies for workers at bakeries, poultry farms and gas stations but very few Jordanians were willing to take up training for these occupations.

However, the VTC said that a total of 110 VTC-trained workers had been given jobs in several companies since the beginning of 1990.

VTC Director-General Ahmad Atwan said he made an inspection tour of the training centres in the south and said that the trained workers were given priority over non-Jordanians once they completed their training periods.

Campaign for Iraq collects JD 220,000

AMMAN (J.T.) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) has collected JD 220,000 in cash and in-kind contributions from Jordanian citizens and organisations for the Iraqi people and said that it would hand the contributions to the Iraqi Embassy in Jordan Monday.

GUVS Executive President Abdullah Al Khatib said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the donations of milk, biscuits and medicines as well as cash will benefit nearly five million Iraqi children.

"A group of Jordanian children will deliver the donations Monday to Iraq's Ambassador to Jordan Nouri Ismael Alwais, who will arrange for its delivery to Iraq as a gift from Jordanian families and children," Khatib said.

The donations followed a wide-scale campaign by GUVS in the Jordanian media, appealing for assistance to the children of Iraq and underlining the Iraqi children's rights to food supplies in times of war.

GUVS, Khatib said, was holding contacts with various organisations based in Jordan, calling on them to offer contributions to

the Iraqi children in accordance with the international charters regarding children.

Khatib said that GUVS had cabled heads of governments seeking an end to the blockade on Iraq's children who, he said, should have access to basic food commodities.

Last week Khatib said that JD 100,000 in cash and in-kind contributions were raised by GUVS teams in Jordan. He said that transportation companies had offered deep freeze trucks to transport foodstuffs such as milk, eggs and biscuits to Iraq.

Apart from notices in the local press calling on the public to offer contributions, Khatib said he had over 14 foreign television interviews to support the campaign and urge organisations to offer donations to Iraqi children.

According to Khatib, GUVS has also been involved in campaigns to raise funds and collect contributions for Arab and national expatriates fleeing to Jordan from the Gulf region.

He said the campaign had received a great response on the part of the Jordanian public. GUVS has organised teams to

tour districts in various towns and collect contributions and meals to be offered to the expatriates at mosques and other centres, and has arranged for medical treatment for the evacuees.

Meanwhile Minister of Social Development Abdul Majid Shreideh said Saturday that he had set up an emergency team to work around the clock to help provide food supplies and shelter to the Arab expatriates.

He said the team was working in conjunction with a national committee that was set up Thursday by Prime Minister Mudar Badran to supervise assistance for the evacuees.

The Professional Association Complex announced Saturday that it was looking after for nearly 2,000 evacuees, most of whom were being temporarily sheltered in mosques.

The Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions said that it was collecting medicines and clothes for the Iraqi people. It also said that a day's pay would be cut from the workers' wages in Jordan to be sent as a contribution to Iraq, and that at least JD 70,000 will be collected for this humanitarian cause.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Royal Decree appoints ambassadors

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Saturday appointing Fakhr Abu Taleb as Jordan's ambassador to Yemen, Awad Abu Obeid as ambassador to the United Arab Emirates and Akram Barakat as Jordan's ambassador to Switzerland.

King congratulates Uruguay

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable of good wishes to the president of Uruguay on his country's national day. The King wished the president continued health and happiness and the Uruguayan people further progress and development.

Anani meets Italian journalists

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former minister and noted economist Jawad Al Anani had a meeting in Amman with a visiting team of Italian journalists currently covering the Gulf crisis to explain the adverse effects of this crisis on Jordan's economy. Anani said that Jordan's dependence on Iraqi oil and national exports to the Iraqi markets were to blame for the great loss which the Kingdom would incur by applying trade sanctions on Iraq. Although Jordan was abiding by the U.N. Security Council resolution on the trade embargo on Iraq, he said, the Kingdom would not abandon its humanitarian role in matters pertaining to the crisis.

Jordan to attend conference on crime

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in an international conference on the prevention of crime and dealing with criminals which is due to open Sunday in Cuba under United Nations auspices. A Jordanian judge, Deeb Halashe, will attend the two-week conference which covers ways of providing protection to the society from criminals, international cooperation and the treatment of criminals in accordance with international laws.

Thailand to send planes for Thai evacuees

AMMAN (Petra) — Thailand's deputy foreign minister Saturday wound up a two-day visit to Jordan by announcing that his government had decided to send in aircraft to pick up Thai nationals stranded in Jordan after evacuating Kuwait. The Thai official had held talks with the Foreign Ministry's Secretary-General Mutaseem Al Bilbeisi and other officials on facilities for Thai nationals who fled the Gulf region following Iraq's Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait. He voiced his country's appreciation of Jordan's assistance to the Thai nationals. The Thai official was seen off by foreign ministry officials.

42 foreign companies banned

AMMAN (Petra) — The Finance Ministry Saturday issued a ban on 42 foreign companies for their violating regulations of the Arab office for boycotting Israel. In its statement, the ministry said that sanctions were lifted from eight other firms after pledging to abide by the boycott regulations.

JD 375,000 allocated for roads

ZARQA (Petra) — The municipality here has embarked on a comprehensive plan to asphalt and maintain roads in the city of Zarqa. Mayor Yasser Omari said that JD 375,000 have been allocated for the project.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

★ Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zaru displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).

SYMPOSIUM

★ Symposium entitled "Problems Facing Parents of Handicapped Children" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 9:00 a.m. - 12:30.

Waldheim: Saddam still willing

(Continued from page 1)

prior to the Austrian leader's departure home.

According to Austrian spokesman, the release of Austria by Iraq was unconditional.

Austria, neutral since 1955, has joined United Nations sanctions against Iraq over the takeover of Kuwait.

Austria has also said it would allow unarmed U.S. military planes to cross its airspace on their way to the Gulf. Baghdad assailed the move, accusing Austria of breaching its neutrality.

The Austrian president was accompanied on his visit to Baghdad by Foreign Minister Alois Mock and 23 Austrian journalists.

After greeting Waldheim amid tight security at an airport outside Baghdad, Saddam held a 20-minute news conference and held the Austrian reporters he had no intention of invading Saudi Arabia and would welcome talks with other mediators.

"We respect the sovereignty of every Arab country," an Austrian radio reporter quoted

Saddam as saying.

"We also respected Kuwait's sovereignty but the corrupt regime there plotted against its motherland and with the invasion Iraq was only defending itself."

Saddam welcomed Waldheim's visit and said he was willing to have talks with any other leaders.

"We want talks, that's why we are pleased to see any visitor to Baghdad, that's why we are pleased to see Kurt Waldheim, a particularly fair politician, who could mediate here," the Austrian reporter quoted him as saying.

Saddam repeatedly told reporters he had the support of other Arab countries and said the U.S. military forces stationed in the Gulf would have to go.

"We want the Americans to go away, not die," he said, adding that their presence was a threat to Islamic religious sites.

"It's like Muslims occupying the Vatican," he said.

The Austrian radio reporter described Saddam as calm, friendly and soft-spoken throughout the news conference.

*Drive carefully!
Traffic can be hazardous.*

Massive airlift under way

(Continued from page 1)

"There is no indication from Baghdad that the (Iraqi) border officials are applying any major brake on the flow," said an Asian diplomat. This was confirmed by several other diplomats and people who crossed Saturday.

At least 40,000 people to 45,000 people waited at various points between the Ruweisah post and the Iraqi frontier base at Trebil for four days before crossing into Jordan between Wednesday and Saturday to about 185,000 people who had already crossed.

Jordan, which closed the border post midnight Wednesday until Friday afternoon to clear the clog in the system, has said that it is now able to handle 20,000 people every day.

"The main problem that the people face is lack of cash," said a relief official. "Most of them have already spent their last pennies in Kuwait and Iraq to get to the border and even those with bank balances are in a bad state since they could not withdraw any since banks remained closed," he said.

A rough estimate indicated that at

least 3,000 Pakistanis, 3,000 Indians, 1,400 Sudanese, 1,400 Yemenis, 1,300 Sri Lankans and 450 Filipinos in addition to another 7,500 to 8,000 other nationals excluding Egyptians remained in Amman Saturday evening waiting for special flights home. India and Pakistan were operating two daily flights, and the Philippines airlines was flying in a plane Sunday.

There was no indication of when the Sri Lankans would be flown home. A spokeswoman for the honorary consulate of Sri Lanka said the airlift could take place sometime this week. Some of the Sri Lankans have been waiting here since Aug. 11.

Among the arriving Saturday was a party of 20 French embassy dependents and non-essential staff from Kuwait.

The group left Baghdad Friday evening, a day after departing from Kuwait, and complete the journey by Saturday evening, a French source said.

An Arab American with an Iraqi residence permit was aboard an Iraqi Airways flight which landed in Amman Saturday. Nick Abtahad of Hazel Park, Michigan, a mechanic, arrived with 170 others.

Moscow, Baghdad at odds

(Continued from page 1)

more dangerous development of events," Shevardnadze said. Soviet support of the resolution "reflects our utmost concern over the situation in the Gulf area and the desire to promote the early elimination of the extremely dangerous threat to world peace and security," he said.

Gorbachev sent an urgent personal message to Saddam Friday, urging him to comply with earlier U.N. resolutions to withdraw

from Kuwait. He warned the situation in the Gulf was "extremely dangerous" and that failure to withdraw would "inevitably prompt the Security Council to take corresponding additional measures."

The Iraqi News agency reported Saturday that Saddam had asked to Gorbachev by asking him to try to delay the Security Council vote Friday. He made the request after receiving Gorbachev's letter, the agency said, which reported the exchange after the resolution was approved.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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One-dimensional policy, and no easy way out

OVER THREE weeks ago, in the wake of Iraq's takeover of Kuwait, the U.S. supplied Saudi Arabia with information that Saddam Hussein was about to strike against the kingdom in an imminent invasion. The Saudis took the Americans at their word and saw no alternative to allow U.S. troops in. But when Iraq did not oblige President George Bush in his doomsday forecast, even when U.S. forces were at a disadvantage at the initial stage of the conflict, the American argument began to wear thin. Now, few people take seriously Bush's assertion that the deployment of U.S. forces is purely defensive in nature and their sole purpose is to defend Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. As a matter of fact the U.S. president and his men still see it possible to strike against Iraq with all the might that the U.S. and others can muster. How else can anyone explain the size of the U.S. military presence in the Gulf region and the transfer of high-tech offensive arsenals including the radar elusive Stealth bombers and cruise missiles and all the rest? But then the Iraqi president made his counter move in the Gulf chess game and checkmated Washington by playing the American and British hostages card in a last-ditch move to forestall any U.S. attack against his country. What ensued is a stalemate with both sides facing one another eyeball to eyeball in the deserts of the Arabian Peninsula. The issue now is how long President Bush can keep his troops stranded in the desert heat without making a counter move. Uppermost on the minds of all concerned is whether Bush would be content to continue the chess game in the Gulf or would opt to play a dangerous poker game in which everyone stands to lose. The phenomenal price tag in terms of dollars and political fortunes attached to Bush's gambit in the Middle East is geared to acquire a momentum of its own that may force all in a corner in which the way out can only be desperate and suicidal. The other leaders of the Western World need to raise their voices of concern over Bush's one-dimensional policy before they too are dragged deeper in a terrible desert quagmire.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Rai Arabic daily on Saturday expressed satisfaction over the transformation on the position of enlightened groups in the United States with regard to the current military buildup in the Gulf and George Bush's intention to wage war. The paper said that the Vietnam war veterans, jurists and those groups in solidarity with the Palestinian people have all voiced their opposition to the presence of American forces in the Gulf, and have called on Bush to withdraw them immediately. These groups have openly accused the president of hypocrisy in that he was applying double standards, and for his invasion of Granada and Panama, while condemning Iraq's moves in the Gulf, the paper noted. It said that the United States is spending \$1 billion a week to sustain its forces in the Gulf instead of feeding and giving homes to the millions of homeless and needy Americans. We are happy to see the American people realising their president's blunder, and trying to control their own destiny and safeguard America's interests and citizens, said the paper. It is time that Washington heard the call of reason and the voice of the silent majority who do not wish to be sent to the deserts of Arabia to be killed for no cause, the paper continued. The paper urged Washington to hear the calls of peace coming from the American people themselves, and to save the lives of large numbers of U.S. citizens from a new Vietnam in the Middle East.

A Columnist in Al Rai daily says the Egyptians ought to be grateful to Saddam Hussein for his take-over of Kuwait which prompted the United States to recognise Egypt's strategic importance and award it by writing off its \$14 billion debt and supplying it with modern warplanes. Tareq Masarweh says Washington which used to send an envoy to the Arab region to convey its orders to the Arab leaders has now sent in its naval forces and planes, and called up its reserves in order to force the Arabs to succumb to America's whims and desires. It is clear for all Arabs now that it is the Arab countries weaknesses that encouraged the United States to send in its forces and to try to impose its will on the nation, the writer adds. Had Syria and Lebanon joined forces with Jordan, Palestine, Yemen, Sudan, Tunisia and Algeria, he notes, the Americans would have reconsidered their present threats to Iraq or any other Arab country, he writes further. Furthermore, he says, the United States is currently financing its troops presence in Arab lands with funds from the Gulf nations; and once oil and the Gulf's \$700 billion have been spent, the Americans will no more be present in the Arab World. The writer recalls that in 1963 when Abdul Karim Qasem of Iraq threatened Kuwait, a British force was sent to Kuwait for protection at the cost of \$800 million but that the Arabs who sent their force to offer the same protection later received a mere \$800,000.

Al Dustour daily said while a number of Arab leaders pursue efforts to contain the Gulf crisis, many others are doing their best to escalate tension and pave the ground for war. King Hussein the paper said is currently spearheading Arab efforts to find a peaceful solution to the problem and to deny foreign powers the chance to impose their will on the Arabs. Israel, on the other hand, is doing all it can to step up escalation and increase tension to abort any inter-Arab solution for the problem, the paper noted. Those siding with the King in trying to find a peaceful solution are only a handful, but they are placing the higher Arab interests above all other considerations in a bid to avert a real disaster that would affect all those involved in the area, the paper added. Solidarity among the Arab which the King is trying to achieve is the real threat to Israel which, the paper said, is trying with all its force to destroy Arab strength.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Gulf crisis - far-reaching repercussions

TO an Arab national, the battle between Iraq and Kuwait ceased to exist as of Thursday, Aug. 2, 1990 when Kuwait as a separate state made its entry to history and its exit from geography. What remained since then is a conflict between Iraq and the United States.

The dispute is not over Kuwait or its royal family, but over oil supplies and Western hegemony over the Middle East.

America wants to secure the continuation of the flow of Arab oil to America and the West at cheap prices all the time. Iraq has a theory about oil prices. Arab wealth distribution and Arab independent decision making as one nation divided by artificial border which were marked by the British colonialists.

The outcome of the dispute has nothing to do with Kuwait

and the demise or reinstatement of the \$60b Sabah family's rule. It will determine the future of the Arab Nation and the shape of the new world order after the humiliating defeat of the Soviet Union, which was a superpower with global responsibility to check the excesses of the United States.

We should not overrate the strength of Iraq or underestimate the strength of the United States. The first is a small developing country surrounded by a hostile environment, while the latter is a superpower, the only superpower that controls the oceans and the skies of the globe. If a shooting war has to be avoided at all, it would not be because America cannot beat Iraq, but because the U.S. is not ready to pay the huge price for such a crusade, as tens of thousands of American citizens, both civi-

lians and soldiers, will be dispatched home in bags. The Arab oil may be destroyed and America will become the enemy number one of all Arabs and Muslims in the world and a target for violent actions, not only now, but for generations to come.

There is of course a big difference between economic sanctions in accordance with International Security Council Resolution 661, and military blockade imposed by America and British and other fleets in the Gulf against Iraq, and partially against Jordan.

The blockade is, by definition, an act of war. Therefore, the Gulf war, in a strict legal sense, has already started, giving the Iraqis the right to self defence. So far Iraq has not acted on the American aggression except by detaining its citizens within the Iraqi terri-

tory, some three thousand. Iraq is following the precedent set by America itself when it detained, in some sort of concentration camps, all Americans of Japanese descent during the World War II. America actually went that far by detaining its own citizens if they happened to be of Japanese origin, but did not act similarly against Americans of German origin, either because they are too many or because the white race has a privileged treatment in the then racist social and political system in America.

The sanctions can be understood if they were confined to arms, ammunition, and other strategic material needed by the Iraqi army. The inclusion of food, medicine and other basic human needs is immoral and shameful, because it is meant to starve innocent women and children. The

wording of the resolution recognised that shame and made an ambiguous exception for medicine and food on human considerations. However, the self-appointed American policeman is blockading shipping altogether, so that not even medicine or food can reach the sick and the hungry.

We know that the civilized world in the last decade of the twentieth century will eventually condemn such immoral and inhuman practices, but such condemnation should come about now, and before severe human suffering starts taking roots.

As everybody knows, there is a central government to allocate resources in Iraq. The authorities naturally give the priority to the armed forces who will get all the food they need first. The shortage, if any, will hit the civilian

population.

Finally, the economic blockade against the Iraqi population amounts to taking the 18 million Iraqi citizens as hostages, and starving them to death. It has no other meaning. Does that give the Iraqis the right to force foreign citizens to be their guests and share in the hardships imposed by their respective governments? The so-called guests or hostages could not be described as a human shield unless the Iraqis intend to start the war and make a chemical strike against American and Israeli concentrations and oil facilities in the Gulf while preventing the Americans, the British and the Israelis from retaliating. However, the fact remains that the Iraqis want to avoid war and defend themselves against attacks by the U.S. and other forces.

Will they or won't they?

By Meriel Beattie
Reuters

SOFIA — Nine months after ousting its hardline Communist leaders Bulgaria's political future is uncertain, its economy crisis and its population frightened by the prospect of a winter without food.

Shops and petrol stations are empty, foreign investors are deterred by a huge, unpaid foreign debt, and the new freely-elected parliament cannot agree what kind of government will run the country.

An increasing number of Bulgarians, frustrated by hour-long queues at empty stores and worried by the prospect of chronic shortages during the harsh Balkan winter, are switching to queues outside foreign consulates for emigrant visas.

"This country is really on the ropes," one Western diplomat in Sofia said.

"People are getting out for whatever reason they can—and I wouldn't want to be here this winter if I were Bulgarian."

Like many of its East European neighbours, Bulgaria last year ousted its hardline Communist leaders, ended the Communist monopoly on power and called free parliamentary elections.

Whereas other countries in Eastern Europe voted the Communists out of power this year, in Bulgaria the party renamed itself socialist and swept to victory at free elections in June.

Meetings of the new 400-member

parliament are sluggish. It took six attempts to elect a president last month and with the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) firmly opposed to a formal coalition with the socialists, there is no sign what sort of government will run Bulgaria or when it will be formed.

"If you were to take a blank sheet of paper and summarise the significant decisions that parliament has made since it convened, you'd have about half a dozen," one Western envoy commented. "They are still fighting like children."

Although the post of state president went to UDF leader Zhelyu Zhelev, many Bulgarians doubt whether the quietly-spoken philosopher will be able to a counterbalance skillful socialist politicians such as Prime Minister Andrei Lukanov.

Few Bulgarians are optimistic about the country's economic prospects. Following the removal of hardline Communist leader Todor Zhivkov last November, Lukanov's caretaker government revealed a grim picture of a \$10 billion foreign debt and stagnating state industry.

Western analysts say Lukanov's economic rescue plan has done little except push up prices at home and tarnish the country's image with foreign creditors.

Bulgaria froze principal repayments on the foreign trade bank's \$9 billion debt in March. Three months later it suspended interest payments for 90 days, only agreeing to pay 15 per cent of the amount due.

"To say investors are now hesi-

tating to come to Bulgaria is an enormous understatement," one Western European envoy said.

At home, many Bulgarians seem to have resigned themselves to queuing for dwindling stocks of summer vegetables and a few, unpredictable, deliveries of basic household goods.

"I can't imagine what the winter will be like. I don't even want to think about it, but at least I don't have children to worry about," said 25-year-old Daniela Vodenicharska, standing in a queue outside a shop which once sold toilet paper.

Bulgarians, unlike Romanians, Czechoslovaks and Poles, have been slow to take to the streets in mass demonstrations.

Western diplomats and opposition activists say the bleak political and economic prospects and the looming spectre of winter might push many people too far.

"There might well be a social explosion since things in the economy, commerce and food supplies are becoming worse and worse. People will not be able to cope with the lack of goods which they need," said Konstantin Trenchev, leader of the independent trade union Podkrepa (support).

President Zhelev also forecast a bleak winter.

"We hope to prevent the worst, like starvation, cold and blackouts," Zhelev said. "If we do not prevent this it could be a reason for things to turn out differently. The so-called 'velvet revolution' won't be so velvet in Bulgaria."

'Who are we kidding?'

By Deborah Zabarenko
Reuters

WASHINGTON — When the Gulf crisis hit Washington, many of the top brass were out of town. And many, including President George Bush, have stayed away even as they make decisions that could change history.

President Bush is golfing — badly — and fishing in Maine.

His Secretary of State, James Baker, is fishing in Wyoming.

His Vice President, Dan Quayle, is on holiday in Arizona.

Baker's key aide, Margaret Tutwiler, is on holiday in Florida.

United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, whose normal base is New York, is in Latin America.

He dismissed suggestions that he cut short his trip, saying, "a U.N. secretary general must, above all things, remain 'serene'."

Ironically, one diplomat who is in Washington is the U.S. ambassador to Baghdad, who was absent from the Iraqi capital as Iraqi troops overran Kuwait on Aug. 2.

Ambassador April Gaspie is "providing her expertise and experience... on the current situation. No decision has been made on her return to Baghdad," according to the State Department.

The U.S. Congress is sticking to the rule that August is for vacation, leaving the halls of government virtually empty.

The president has earned sharp criticism for refusing to

cancel his traditional August vacation in the cool ocean resort of Kennebunkport, Maine, as U.S. troops sweat in the heat of the Saudi desert.

But the ghost of President Jimmy Carter — who barricaded himself in the White House during the Iranian hostage crisis a decade ago, and may have lost his re-election bid because of it — prompted the White House to show Bush on the Gulf links and in his speedboat.

Such photo opportunities are geared to allay any public panic, but they fail to show this is clearly a working holiday for Bush.

On Friday, for example, Bush met his national security advisers for most of the morning and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady and Budget Adviser Richard Darman in the afternoon.

His Majesty King Hussein met Bush at his seaside holiday home last week for talks on the Jordanian stance on U.N. economic sanctions against Iraq. The King left Maine with the grim mien of a man in the middle of a crisis, not the relaxed look of a monarch on holiday.

Bush has also pursued his own brand of telephone diplomacy, talking with Australian Prime Minister Robert Hawke and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Thursday.

Baker keeps in touch several times a day from his rocky mountain aerie, and has had several messages and phone calls with Soviet Foreign

Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd.

And however rustic the setting, Baker has a fax machine to receive documents and news, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said.

Modern communications enable top officials to be in constant contact without being in the same place, said foreign policy expert Leila Fawez of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Medford, Massachusetts.

Even so, the feeling that no one is home during a crisis could damage diplomatic relations, Fawez said.

"It may cause resentment among our allies," Fawez told Reuters in a telephone interview. "In the short term it's OK... it gets the message through (that the United States is not panicking over Iraqi actions)."

"But who are we kidding? It is a major crisis. I think it could be counter-productive to keep it up."

U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney is one member of the Bush administration who has been constantly visible during the crisis.

Cheney had planned to start two weeks' holiday last Friday, but instead spent four days in the Gulf visiting U.S. troops and talking with government leaders in the region.

"The vacation, of course, went out the window as soon as this whole (Gulf) business broke," said one defence official, who asked not to be identified.

Security Council endorses use of force

(Continued from page 1)

Anbari said the day would come when many countries that voted for the resolution, or abstained, would be the victims of such a precedent.

He said the United States insisted on its right to use force, whether or not the council adopted the resolution.

"This use of force by the United States of America or any of its allies or puppets will lead inevitably to a number of explosions which will burn a hole in its path," he added.

The U.N. resolution could be a pretext for an American attack on Iraq, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's top adviser said Saturday.

"The Security Council decision to use force to apply the economic embargo risks being used as an alibi by the United States for aggression against Iraq," said Bassam Abu Sharif in a statement made available to Reuters.

Abu Sharif said "the use of force in the Gulf crisis by any participant would lead to a worldwide catastrophe."

Iraq quickly criticised the Soviet Union for supporting the resolution, saying it had ignored a request to delay the vote "a few days."

"This behaviour from the Soviet side looks like an attempt to find a pretext for voting on resolutions imposed by the United States on the security council," the Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted an official source as saying.

During a week of debate on the wording of the resolution, the Soviet Union stressed political and diplomatic efforts should be exhausted before force was approved.

The Iraqi News Agency said Moscow, at one time Iraq's main

arms supplier, had given Baghdad 90 minutes to take "radical steps" to avoid Soviet support for the resolution.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev warned Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Friday that the council would adopt "appropriate

additional measures" unless Iraq withdrew from Kuwait.

U.S. Defence Department sources said the first test of the blockade was likely to involve 12 Iraqi oil tankers now being tailed by the navy in the Middle East.

U.N. chief invites Aziz

(Continued from page 1)

how I can prevent an escalation of the crisis...," Perez de Cuellar told a news conference at the end of a three-day visit to Colombia.

He said he would launch a diplomatic effort aimed at solving "in all its aspects, the critical situation in the Gulf area." He said his discussions would include the situation of thousands of foreigners who the Iraqi government has prevented from leaving Iraq and Kuwait.

"There is enormous worry all over the world. Nobody wants a war because that war would harm us all, even the countries furthest away," he said, shortly before flying back to New York.

Perez de Cuellar said the Security Council had acted with great prudence. But he said there was a danger of "a negative reaction" from Iraq to the increasingly tough resolutions of the Security Council.

But he said the latest Security Council resolution had not been a total application of Article 42 of the U.N. Charter which permits the U.N. as a last resort to use military force to enforce its resolutions.

"I hope that my action will avoid going up to this level which would truly be armed conflict," he said.

In Baghdad, Aziz was quoted by the Iraqi News Agency as saying Iraq rejected the U.N.

Security Council resolution, adding it was "purely a U.S. resolution."

Asked if he thought the Iraqi government would agree to talk to him, Perez said he had had a personal relationship with Aziz for six years during the Iran-Iraq war. "I want to make use of that personal relationship to avoid a worsening of the situation," he said.

Iraq warns

(Continued from page 1)

He said a summit of five Arab states which tried to defuse the crisis days after the invasion was sabotaged by Saudi Arabia's request to the United States to send troops.

He described the U.S. presence in Saudi Arabia as the equivalent of Muslims occupying the Vatican. "What the U.S. president has done is a crime."

Asked about U.N. resolutions imposing sanctions and approving naval force to uphold them, Saddam dismissed the Security Council as a tool of the United States.

"The United Nations passed resolutions saying Israel should withdraw from the occupied territories. Israel did not."

"The United Nations never imposed embargoes on Israel as a result... the reason is that the United States does not want a blockade on Israel," Saddam said.

Handwritten signature: J. Aziz

Lack of liquid cash rather than fear cited for Kuwait exodus

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The continued closure of banks, absence of employers, locked-out offices and the collapse of the national currency as well as "artificial shortages" of food and water, rather than fears of any immediate military hostilities, were the main reasons that prompted most Asian expatriates living in Kuwait to leave the country, according to many Indians, Pakistanis and others who arrived here after a trying trek across the Kuwait-Iraqi-Jordanian desert.

"It was as if a tap was turned off," commented a Pakistani office manager who said he tried to stay on in Kuwait for more than three weeks after the Iraqi takeover of the country on Aug. 2. "For the first 10 to 20 days everyone hoped that things would return to normal despite reports of the (American-led) military build-up in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf," he said preferring to be identified only as "Khan."

According to Khan, "the collapse of the auto-card system" — electronic teller machines operating round the clock — was one of the last straws that broke the camels' backs, undermining the determination to stay on and "take their chances with whatever happens."

"It was the best insurance everyone had," he told the Jordan Times. "They worked for a few days after the Iraqis came in, then they dried up, depriving many of us of any access to any money at all."

Shamsuddin Chowdhary, a Bangladeshi, who said he was among a multi-national group which "was right in the middle of the fighting on that fateful Thursday (Aug. 2)," thought the problem of lack of liquidity was compounded by missing employers and closed offices. "This spread despair among

the people who had hoped that their employers might be able to help them overcome the problems," Chowdhary said. "I had money in the bank, and I still do, at least theoretically," he said. "But to what purpose? I could not withdraw any money, and no-one was accepting cheques."

"Our group of six ran out of cash in the first 10 days," said Chowdhary, who said he was an assistant accountant at a car dealer's. "We sought help from other friends as well as our embassies, but everyone had the same problem — no cash."

Like Khan and Chowdhary, many others interviewed by the Jordan Times, said they would have remained in Kuwait if there was some provision for cash or food supplies. In several areas some people took the initiative to set up community kitchens, but soon their supplies also ran out, Chowdhary said.

"It was not as if everyone had enough money to buy food and essentials for months at a stretch," said Raju Naik, an Indian mechanic. "If we had, we would not have undertaken the gruelling trek across the desert to reach Amman to take a flight home."

Fear of war was there of course, said an Indian woman. "But millions have lived in war zones and survived, even the people of Beirut have survived; why should we be an exception?"

"Even on the day we left, we could hear some gunfire from the distance, and we were not alarmed," she said. "But without cash and basic essentials like water how could we survive?"

The problem was, she added, "no-one knew what was going on. My husband and myself went to our offices daily only to see the big locks on the door."

"Our bosses were missing. There was no-one at their

homes, and we had no idea whatsoever where they were," she added. "It was not only 15 days later that we knew that the entire (Kuwaiti) family had fled to London through Saudi Arabia."

Many also said they could not even get paid their salaries for July. "Many establishments pay salaries in the first week of every month, and since the invasion took place on the second of the month, there were many causes where no-one received their wages," said a Filipino.

Several people refuted reports that there were food shortages in Kuwait. "If you have the money, you can buy food," Khan asserted. But many others said vegetables and meat were available only in certain areas of Kuwait, and the prices were too high.

"There was also an 'artificial shortage' of water and power in some areas," said a Sri Lankan driver who identified himself as Sebastian. "Many panicked, tried to store water in every conceivable way possible, including bath tubs. Water was indeed cut off for three days, but then many had left already for fear that the supply was never going to be restored."

According to an Indian who declined to be identified, even the merger of the Iraqi and Kuwaiti dinars was not alarming since "we knew the actual strength of the Kuwaiti money, but when water stopped coming through the tap we knew something was seriously wrong and decided it was time for us to call it a day and leave Kuwait."

He now regrets the decision. "Some of the people in the same area who arrived here two days after me said water supply had been restored, and there was no problem with power and food either," he said. "I am not sure anymore whether I made the right choice by opting to leave."

The intifada highlights human survival instincts

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The long-term impact of the intifada on family and society is not easily measurable since the results of the uprising as a whole are not clear yet. Nevertheless what has been studied so far shows an astonishing human ability and agility to adapt to the most atrocious ways of living. It has been proven throughout history that survival instincts surge to the highest levels during moments of tragedy. It is also noteworthy that during moments of extreme hardship some of the best characteristics come out in the personality of an individual and the community as a whole.

One important area where the intifada has already had significant effect is the transformation of the function of the family in society, particularly where women and children are concerned. Children should be playing, learning, feeling carefree and having fun. Children were never supposed to plan little schemes against the enemy, and get killed even if they are labelled as heroes as a result. But this is the situation in the Israeli occupied territories and it has escalated significantly since the intifada. According to available statistics in 1989, there were 730 deaths caused by Israeli actions, 70,000 serious injuries and over 50,000 arrests. Since about 48 per cent of the population is below the age of 15 and another 30 per cent is between the ages of 15 and 25, it is evident that the majority of those injured and killed are from the younger generation.

In an apparently popular story during the first two months of the intifada, a six-year-old Palestinian boy threw stones at Israeli soldiers and was later grabbed by them. They immediately demanded to know who had sent him out. The boy replied it was his brother Mohammad and was forced to show the soldiers where Mohammad was. After surrounding the house, the soldiers challenged the brother to come outside. Mohammad stepped outside where the soldiers could visibly see him. He was only three years old.

There are countless examples like this one, psychiatrist Dr. Walid Sarhan says. "Although it is tragic to see a boy of three so matured and arduous, when he should really be running around full of joy, the independence and authority Mohammad has attained is remarkable," he says.

During the two and a half years of the uprising, family roles and relationships have changed dramatically "by youths participating directly and extensively in the intifada and challenging the traditional patriarchal authority of the male head of household," says a researcher who preferred not to be named. What was once a father figure no longer holds for it is now the children who are regarded as "heroes" and answering to the wider authority of the national cause. Even children, who have just managed to walk and talk, stand up for a cause they do not deeply understand: to fight the enemy. "There is no distinction in authority between the children and the elders, for authority has become the status of 14 year olds out in the street," Sarhan says.

It is clear that it has become the responsibility of the child to take on a heavy burden, and the children have learned to be more cooperative with one another and now they are masters at working in a team. "They learn at an extremely early age and therefore they become more aware of people and the surroundings which they live in. They learn to think and naturally they become more mature," Sarhan says.

Though no war or uprising can be described positively in its absolute sense, Sarhan noted that in long term results children of the intifada grow up with a mind of their own. Though, neurologist Dr. Nasri Khouri says it can swerve the other way where the children would grow uncontrolled and without respect of order. Their sense of heroism and nationalistic achievements could very well affect their future socially and psychologically. Also, fighting for what is their (Palestinian) land and for their national right requires of the children to become little adults at an immensely rapid pace thus skipping their childhood stage, Sarhan says.

Generally speaking, the children will become very serious and hard when they are adults. On the other hand most of the children are more likely to become ambitious and self-dependent as they will yearn for something better than what they saw as children."

Khouri maintains that while some will get over this experience with time, there are those who will be scarred for life and suffer harsh consequences if they were to be faced with personal experiences, such as being beaten up brutally, abused or severely harassed. According to a research paper

by the Arab Federation of Psychiatrists, "the role of play in the psycho-social development of the 'children of the stones' is having its effect, unexpectedly, in a positive way in many aspects, such as the development of the personality, socially, cognitively and even physically."

However extreme the living conditions may be, Sarhan notes, the children seem to be fascinated with what they are doing during the uprising. They often tell stories about heroic children who never got frightened by Israeli soldiers but "felt something moving within them and that a game was about to start," contrary to the beginning of the uprising when the children would cry and run to the adults for comfort, Sarhan says.

Data from the Arab Journal of Psychiatrists indicates that out of every group of seven uninjured four to 12 year olds, six were not suffering from any pathological symptoms of depression or anxiety.

Perhaps, says Sarhan, this can partly be attributed to the fact that the intifada "did not come out of the blue," so there was no real chaos or confusion. "There was a purpose, a determination, a message indicating that it was one generation that was brought up in frustration." The Palestinians felt they had to do something to defend themselves as individuals. They discovered they could when the intifada began, Sarhan says.

However glorious a picture this may paint of the Palestinian children, as fearless heroes, this is not to say that the children do not experience any symptoms of fear. "The most frightening experience for many is night raids," says Sarhan. In the daytime everyone around them is awake and can come for help, but at night, the sudden unexpected knock on the door "brings nightmares, anxiety and fear to the kids," he says.

A researcher says, "despite such tales of fearlessness, we should not be deceived into thinking that Palestinians are totally immune from fear and are not perhaps being permanently scarred by the extent of the violence perpetrated against them, children are exhibiting typical symptoms of fear: bedwetting, uncontrollable crying, loss of appetite, nightmares and aggressiveness."

Examples like these are indications of the two-edged nature of the intifada. The ways in which it has strengthened and transformed the Palestinian community is counterba-

lanced by the repercussions caused by the degree of violence and suppression against it, the researcher asserts.

The psychological impact of children becoming heroes and authoritative figures is not the only worry. One of the most serious concerns, specialists say, is the emergence of a generation that is illiterate and uneducated and "Israel is utilising this to destroy them." While the schools are closed, many teachers are found in the streets with groups of children, teaching them to read, write and struggling to get the students educated. According to Sarhan, this is not enough because there are large numbers of children who have never gone to school and are reduced to the first level of education. "What will happen to all these children in the future? How hard will it be to start with the education system all over again once they are young adults?" Sarhan asks.

These same questions concern educationalists and parents. A major impact, mind-boggling to education specialists is that the discipline that a school provides, which is lacking now, may result in a generation of youths who do not answer to any authority whatsoever and challenge every traditional of obedience. "Specialists are at a loss over the long term impact," says Sarhan.

The authority of teachers has thus deteriorated (as has the parents' authority), Sarhan adds. A specialist recalls stories told during the examination period, where students would cheat any way they knew and the teachers could not be able to control them. Sarhan explains that before the intifada the children used to look up at the teachers with respect but now, they are the ones who seem to be controlling the area and are beginning to view the "authoritative figures" as co-workers. Children have developed a tremendous confidence in themselves that they are no longer susceptible to parental or any adult relations, Sarhan says.

Many educationalists assert that the policy of closing schools and universities in the occupied territories "is because Israel recognises that the most prominent achievement of the Arabs in the occupied territories is their higher education levels." "The Israelis fear that the level of education will overcome them and so they launched this strategy as a purely defensive practice," says Ibrahim Abu Lughod, a professor of political science in North-West University of Chi-

cago. But worries of educationalists, concerned specialists and parents seem to differ from the bulk of the people in the occupied territories. Dr. Assad Abdul Rahman, a Palestinian professor in Jordan and member of the Palestine National Council (PNC) explains that some of the children have mixed feelings about the "closure of schools, while on the whole they seem to accept it as a sacrifice during any war and not just theirs." "One finds many youths in the streets fighting for their national cause and taking great pride in themselves, education for them seems absurd," Abdul Rahman says.

Although the older children understand the future effects of being uneducated, both individually and within the society, they consider nationalistic obligations as a higher priority.

Yet even with the educational deprivation the Palestinian children seem to have a high level of confidence and self-esteem. They look ahead at their future as any child living under normal conditions.

According to Abu Lughod, the Israelis have thought out their policy very carefully and the end result, whichever way it turns out, be detrimental to the Palestinians. He adds that "Israeli intentions are to transform the existing population into a pool of labour." In other words the Palestinian population would do the "dirty work" for the Israelis and they will have to accept their fate.

Abu Lughod says that even educational institutions outside have not produced adequate material that could be utilised as a substitute to formal schooling. On the one hand the Palestinians will be forced into the labour force to work for the Israelis and on the other hand, with an average population of 20 year olds who will be unskilled, uneducated and jobless, "it will become more like Mauritania," Abu Lughod says.

Not even in World War II — nowhere in the world for that matter — has a country prohibited the continuation of education. Although the Nazis were in full control of schools, they respected the necessity of education. Abu Lughod affirms, "What the Israelis are doing is unprecedented. And no effective counter strategy has been created. The Arab States have not even stated that Israel is committing cultural genocide on the Palestinian population," he adds.

Swiss want a real national anthem

By Kevin Liffey
Reuter

BERN — Switzerland's 700th anniversary next year has prompted an unsolicited flood of suggestions for a new national anthem.

By Hans Rudolf Doering, the official whose job it is to read the lyrics, says they just show how hard it is to set the spirit of a modern state in song.

"Our typical lyricist is a real edelweiss-poet. Usually they just drip with bourgeois conservatism and cliché," said Doering, Deputy Director of the Federal Office of Culture, waving a suggestion that had just arrived.

The cliché idyll of Alpine meadows, Alphorns and Cowbells has lost none of its appeal — and sometimes lands on his desk complete with hand-painted illustrations.

One offering begins: "By charming mountains and lakes surrounded, Lies our beautiful, Sweet Swiss homeland."

"On the other hand," Doering concedes, "it's pretty hard to get some more current themes like European economic integration into anational anthem."

The existing anthem, the official Swiss psalm, is notoriously difficult to sing — "there's one point here you have to squeeze words or you just get lost" — and evasively religious:

"Yo arrive in the red sky of morning, I see you bathed in a sea of rays, You O glorious heavenly Lord."

The government decided only in 196 that an official anthem was needed at all. Unfortunately the most popular alternative to the psalm was a bloodthirsty battle-ditty — "do you call, O fatherland?" — that harked back to Switzerland's martial beginnings.

"In the field of adversity, Who threatened by catastrophe Let blood be a red dawn to us, The work of our day's frenzy."

"I member at school in the 50s, we used to sing this kind of thing completely unquestioningly," said Doering, who still knows the text by heart.

But do you call? had another drawback besides the dated text — it was sung to tune of Britain's "God save the queen."

Brian started the idea of national songs with its royal anthem in the 18th century. Not only is the idea but also the tune caught on with a host of small European states keen to bolster national feelings.

Th Swiss often used it as an unofficial anthem and even now it rings out to accompany state occasions in the tiny Alpine prin-

cipality of Liechtenstein. Such coincidences bothered no one before World War II but with the growth of international contacts after the war, the need for a distinctive anthem grew.

"There were a few awkward incidents at the 1952 summer olympics, when Switzerland was still a sporting power. I believe there was even some low-level diplomacy," Doering said.

"The Swiss weren't as polite as the British and so the wrong people always stood up."

Something had to be done. In this federalised country, central government's decision was binding only on the army and the diplomatic service. So in 1961 Bern merely invited the cantons (regions) to take up the psalm, which was at least Swiss through and through.

More through resignation than enthusiasm, the psalm took hold. But the suggestions for an alternative, unsolicited and with little hope of success, never stopped coming.

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Atmosphère tendue.

Les Jordaniens entre solidarité et égoïsme

Le nombre d'inscrits n'est pas encore publié mais des milliers de Jordaniens (hommes, femmes, enfants) se pressent depuis deux semaines aux portes de l'association des syndicats, des organisations de charité et devant les supermarchés pour s'inscrire

Depuis quelques temps, les Jordaniens prennent très vite des décisions très importantes. Samir, 22 ans, a décidé de rester ici. Et pour le cas où il ne serait pas mobilisé, il essaye aujourd'hui de s'inscrire à l'université de Jordanie pour poursuivre ses études.

Comme beaucoup de jeunes gens en Jordanie, Samir étudie aux Etats-Unis et est venu cet été pour passer des vacances avec sa famille et ses amis. Le 21 août, il devait rentrer à Washington pour s'inscrire à l'université, mais il a décidé maintenant de rester en Jordanie pour essayer de «faire quelque chose pour la patrie».

«Ce n'est pas qu'on m'interdise de m'en aller», explique-t-il: au contraire, c'est très facile pour moi. Mais je me suis inscrit maintenant dans l'armée populaire parce que je sens que ma patrie est en danger et que, ici au moins, je pourrais peut-être apporter un peu d'aide aux malheureux, voire à ma patrie».

Avec ses deux sœurs et son oncle, Samir offre de temps en temps de la nourriture et des vêtements aux gens arrivant du Koweït. Ses parents vivent là-bas et ils y restent jusqu'à présent.

Dans les universités, dans les

centres d'entraînement et dans les rues d'Amman, les Jordaniens semblent très enthousiastes et s'agglutinent devant les centres, criant des slogans patriotiques et insistant sur la nécessité d'aider les réfugiés.

«En une seule journée, le nombre d'inscriptions pour l'armée populaire a atteint un maximum de 15.000 personnes», explique Mohamed Rashdan, le secrétaire général du comité populaire. On ne connaît pas encore le total exact. Tout ce qu'on peut dire c'est qu'à coup sûr, il a dépassé les 80.000.

Rashdan confirme que l'atmosphère est à l'enthousiasme: «J'ai même vu une fois une femme avec ses deux enfants âgés de 10 et 12 ans, en tenue militaire, venir pour combattre et défendre la Nation».

Dans les circonstances actuelles, chacun se sent capable de prendre part aux événements et de se préparer à la guerre.

«Nous avons reçu des gens âgés de 5 ou 6 ans jusqu'à 65 ans», affirme Rashdan, dont un grand nombre a déjà une expérience militaire.

En effet, les Jordaniens attendent leur tour avec impatience pour être appelés à combattre. Ils

dans l'armée populaire et offrir des dons aux réfugiés venant du Koweït. Un bouleversement notable est apparu dans la vie des Jordaniens reflétant un mélange de sentiments: du patriotisme, de la peur, de l'anxiété et parfois de la haine.



Séance d'entraînement militaire.

assistent à tous les cours d'entraînement mis en place par le département de la défense civile. Par ailleurs, les responsables jordaniens organisent de multiples manifestations et installent des centres d'aide et d'accueil pour les arrivants du Koweït.

«Les cours d'entraînement de défense civile devraient être inclus dans les programmes de l'université, et même les entraînements de l'armée», estime une étudiante de la faculté des arts.

«Je viens de m'inscrire avec quatre autres amis, ajoute-t-elle... et vraiment ces cours sont très bénéfiques».

Mises en place à l'initiative du département de la défense civile,

les périodes d'entraînement durent une semaine avec cinq cours différents. Des dizaines de stages de ce type se déroulent simultanément dans toutes les régions de Jordanie. En ce moment 187 cours ont lieu, dont bénéficient 8.521 inscrits. 5.400 inscrits attendent leur tour pour participer à ces séances. Un chiffre qui ne cesse d'augmenter.

Dans le même temps, des dizaines de manifestations se déroulent dans les rues jordaniennes, exprimant des sentiments de haine contre les leaders américains. Ces milliers de Jordaniens engagés (et même des Arabes d'autres nationalités) jurant qu'ils vont eux même combattre l'impérialisme et le

sionisme.

«Même si l'Irak n'a pas besoin de nous en ce moment, nous offrons à toute la Nation arabe et au peuple irakien notre soutien et notre assistance morale», explique un inscrit à l'armée du peuple.

Pourtant les Jordaniens sont un peu effrayés par la situation actuelle. Des dizaines de personnes viennent chaque jour dans les supermarchés acheter du riz et du sucre. D'autres pensent déjà à quitter le pays. On se rue dans les banques pour retirer son argent dans savoir exactement en quelle monnaie il faut thésauriser ses avoirs pour perdre le moins possible.

«Les gens me demandent sans cesse si je peux changer leurs dinars en dollars, comment un responsable étranger en Jordanie».

«J'ai peur que le dinar perde de la valeur et, pour ne rien vous cacher, je suis en train de changer la plupart de mon argent en dollars», confirme un avocat jordannien qui préfère rester anonyme.

Actuellement, la plupart des Jordaniens sont inquiets et restent collés à leur transistor de 8h du matin à 11h du soir. Ils zappent en permanence d'une station de radio ou d'une chaîne de télévision à l'autre pour essayer de tout savoir.

Même les enfants ne parlent presque plus d'autre chose que de politique et se demandent ce qu'ils peuvent faire pour aider les Irakiens ou les réfugiés qui arrivent ici.

Saada Kilani

CLIN

D'CEIL

L'innégociable

Les politiques, comme les militaires, le savent bien. La dissuasion a été conçue pour ne pas servir. Car son usage lui enlèverait sa signification. Sans parler bien sûr des effets destructeurs de ses outils.

Cela est du moins vrai dans une logique bien définie. Celle de la négociation. Un concept qui a marqué pendant très longtemps les relations internationales.

Aujourd'hui, dans le Golfe, on vit un tournant. On ne cherche plus à négocier. Du coup, et François Mitterrand l'a exprimé, nous nous retrouvons dans une logique de guerre. L'enjeu, c'est cette Pax Americana que Washington ne veut pas négocier. Surtout pas avec l'Irak de Saddam Hussein.

A quoi bon dans ces conditions attendre des Nations Unies qu'elles calment le jeu comme on peut l'espérer? Oui, les Etats-Unis ont dit leur mot. Avec l'Irak, ils misent sur l'innégociable...

Ayman Masannat

EN BREF

MSF. Une équipe de l'organisation non gouvernementale française «Médecins sans frontières» est arrivée hier à Amman. Elle va installer cette semaine un camp de transit à la frontière irakienne, avec tentes, points d'eau et dispensaires. L'opération est partiellement financée par la Communauté Economique Européenne et réalisée en collaboration avec la cellule d'urgence du ministère de l'Intérieur jordannien.

Economies. L'éclairage public est depuis lundi réduit de moitié et l'air conditionné est coupé dans les bureaux de tous les services publics, afin d'économiser l'énergie, selon un communiqué de la Direction de l'Energie et des ressources minières. Le communiqué presse en outre la population de ne plus utiliser des ventilateurs ou d'autres appareils électriques, sauf en cas d'«absolue nécessité». La population est invitée à réduire sa consommation d'électricité «aussi bien à domicile que sur les lieux de travail».

Liban. Le parlement libanais a donné mardi un second souffle à l'accord de Taëf en votant les amendements constitutionnels qu'il prévoit, notamment pour un rééquilibrage du pouvoir en faveur des musulmans. La chambre sera composée à l'avenir de 108 membres répartis à égalité entre chrétiens et musulmans: contre 99 dans le système actuel - 54 chrétiens et 45 musulmans.

Images. Pour la première fois depuis le début de la crise du Golfe, le président irakien Saddam Hussein est apparu à la télévision irakienne, en compagnie d'un groupe d'étrangers, dont plusieurs enfants, auxquels il a expliqué pourquoi ils étaient retenus en Irak contre leur gré.

Bébé. Le présentateur vedette de la chaîne française TF1, Patrick Poivre d'Arvor, est rentré mardi en France d'un reportage en Irak avec le bébé d'un otage français dissimulé dans son sac. Poivre d'Arvor avait parlé dans son reportage à Bagdad d'un petit garçon de 18 mois pour lequel il avait personnellement fait des démarches infructueuses auprès des autorités irakiennes.

Arménie. La République d'Arménie a adopté une déclaration de souveraineté, devenant ainsi la douzième république d'URSS à prendre une telle initiative. La déclaration accorde la priorité des lois arméniennes sur celles de l'Union et autorise la création d'une force de défense arménienne, d'ambassades et d'une monnaie.

Pirates. Onze détenus soviétiques ont détourné lundi un Tupolev 154 de l'aéroport sur Karachi et ont demandé l'asile politique au Pakistan. L'avion avait à son bord 29 passagers et 9 membres d'équipage en provenance de Tachkent, en Ouzbékistan soviétique. Les détenus, qui étaient en transfert entre deux prisons, avaient désarmé leurs gardiens et pris le contrôle du Tupolev qui assurait une liaison intérieure entre Nerionungi et Jakoutsk, en Extrême-Orient soviétique.

Réintégration. L'Afrique du Sud, suspendue par le Comité olympique international en 1963 puis exclue en 1970, pourrait réintégrer le mouvement olympique à temps pour les Jeux de 1996. L'Association des comités olympiques nationaux d'Afrique du Sud (ANOC) étudiera très prochainement un rapport sur les changements politiques dans ce pays. Ce rapport passera devant la conférence internationale contre l'apartheid dans le sport, le 4 septembre à Stockholm.

Blocus. En termes très mesurés et très nuancés, le Conseil de Sécurité de l'ONU a autorisé dimanche, en substance, l'usage de la force pour l'arrondissement des navires soupçonnés d'approvisionnement l'Irak. Cette nouvelle résolution a été votée à l'unanimité moins les abstentions du Yémen et de Cuba. Elle transforme le boycott en véritable blocus.

Réservistes. Le président Bush a annoncé mercredi un appel de réservistes pour combler les trous créés dans la machine de guerre américaine par l'envoi d'une énorme force expéditionnaire dans la région du Golfe. C'est la première fois depuis la guerre du Vietnam qu'une telle mesure est appliquée pour des raisons militaires. Elle devrait cependant se limiter à certains spécialistes, notamment en matière de transport et dans le domaine médical.

Durcissement. Le président français François Mitterrand a durci le ton mardi à Paris contre l'Irak, annonçant une aide accrue de la France en hommes et en matériel aux Emirats Arabes Unis et à l'Arabie Saoudite. Pour M. Mitterrand, «nous sommes maintenant dans une logique de guerre (...) dont il sera difficile de sortir». Il a également dénoncé la «menace insupportable» pesant contre les ressortissants étrangers retenus en Irak et au Koweït, qu'il a pour la première fois qualifiés d'«otages».

Défense. Le ministre français de la défense, Jean-Pierre Chevènement, est actuellement à Djibouti pour inspecter les forces françaises engagées dans l'opération «Salamandre» et celles présentes à Djibouti afin de s'assurer de la bonne mise en place du dispositif français dans le Golfe. L'opération «Salamandre» concerne le renfort du groupe aéronaval Clémenceau dans la région.

Incendies. Quatre mille pompiers et militaires ainsi que deux Canadair et deux Tracker (avions porteurs d'eau) ont été mobilisés jeudi dans le sud de la France pour venir à bout des incendies de forêts qui ont déjà détruit depuis mardi près de 20.000 ha de pinèdes, garrigues et maquis.

Pollution. Une raffinerie de la compagnie pétrolière Shell figure en position d'accusée dans une ville de Normandie (ouest de la France) dont le sous-sol est atteint par une pollution en carburant d'une telle ampleur qu'un pavillon a explosé au début du mois. La nappe phréatique est littéralement imbibée de carburant, volatile et inflammable. La ville a été placée sous constante surveillance par les autorités.

LA SEMAINE...

de Suleiman Sweiss

Golfe: la crise morale

La tension continue à monter dans notre région. La guerre des nerfs - et la guerre tout court, selon certains - a déjà commencé. Le président Bush, lui, continue à pratiquer son sport préféré (le golf) à Kennebunkport, dans son ranch.

Les Etats-Unis ne se contentent pas d'occuper l'Arabie Saoudite; ils étendent leur occupation aux Emirats Arabes Unis et peut-être demain à Bahrein et à Oman, sous le même prétexte de «protéger» contre l'Irak. Et, au fil des jours, gouvernements, commentateurs et observateurs constatent qu'en fait les Etats-Unis n'ont fait que saisir l'occasion pour mettre à exécution leurs vieux plans d'occupation militaire des puits de pétrole pour mieux dominer les économies européennes et japonaises, leurs adversaires redoutés.

Oui, la crise politique dans le Golfe arabe bat son plein et, malgré les incertitudes et les craintes sur le plan militaire, des responsables de bonne volonté comme le roi Hussein continuent à déployer leurs efforts pour empêcher l'explosion de la situation dans cette région.

Mais la crise actuelle a aussi une autre dimension. C'est la crise morale, la crise de ses principes, dont souffre l'Occident capitaliste. Sur ce plan, les événements actuels ont autant d'importance que les événements de l'automne dernier en Europe de l'est. Ceux-ci ont bien démontré la crise du monde socialiste sur les plans idéologique, politique et moral.

Pendant un temps, l'impérialisme occidental a exploité la débâcle des régimes socialistes pour faire croire à la supériorité du capitalisme, seul capable de répondre aux besoins des hommes. Or, la conduite de l'impérialisme américain et de ses alliés au cours des dernières semaines a remis en lumière la duplicité, l'hypocrisie et l'opportunisme de l'idéologie capitaliste.

Depuis le 2 août, le Conseil de Sécurité est presque en état de réunion permanente à la demande des Etats-Unis. En quelques heures, ceux-ci peuvent imposer au Conseil les résolutions qu'ils veulent au nom du droit international. Quand il s'agit de condamner les violations innombrables de ce même droit par Israël le délégué américain fait tout pour empêcher la condamnation de l'Etat hébreux par le Conseil de Sécurité.

M. Bush ne peut pas tolérer l'«occupation» du Koweït quelques semaines et exige que l'Irak se retire immédiatement. Mais M. Bush et l'administration américaine estiment que le moment n'est pas encore venu pour exiger d'Israël l'application de la résolution 242 du Conseil de Sécurité vingt-trois ans après son adoption. Le retrait des troupes israéliennes - qui persécutent quotidiennement les Palestiniens - de Cisjordanie et de Gaza n'est pas urgent aux yeux des défenseurs de la justice, de la démocratie, de la liberté et du droit à l'autodétermination!

Avons-nous besoin de dire que Saddam Hussein ne fait, en quelque sorte, qu'appliquer ce que l'Occident nous a appris auparavant?

Deux poids, deux mesures: c'est le «principe» qu'appliquent les Etats-Unis et leurs alliés aux pays du «Tiers-Monde». Qu'ils ne nous parlent pas du «droit international» car il signifie pour eux «la loi de la jungle».

Il y a quelques jours, le président Bush nous a fait remarquer que «la prise d'otages est contraire aux traditions musulmanes». Quelle ironie! Il ne reste aux musulmans qu'à apprendre leur religion du «Cheikh Bush»!

La campagne hystérique de l'Occident capitaliste contre l'Irak ne fait pas peur aux Arabes. Les choses n'ont jamais été si claires aux yeux des peuples qui ont subi l'exploitation pendant si longtemps. Le «nouvel ordre politique international» sera peut-être imposé par les peuples du Tiers-Monde, un ordre qui connaîtra la véritable justice.

Décidément, nous n'avons plus à apprendre de leçons de morale de l'Occident. Il a trahi lui-même ses principes. Nous ne nous sentirons nullement coupables si nous défendons nos intérêts et notre avenir. N'est-ce pas cela que cherchent ceux qui tapent aujourd'hui sur les tambours de la guerre dans le golfe arabe?



Refugiés du Koweït et d'Irak

La Jordanie engorgée

Les rues d'Amman sont le théâtre d'un phénomène nouveau. Des réfugiés venus du Koweït et d'Irak se pressent dans les mosquées et dans les salles de la chambre des syndicats, tandis que d'autres s'installent dans des camps, spécialement mis en place.

Pour deux jours cette semaine, la frontière irakienne-jordanienne a été fermée aux réfugiés pour permettre aux responsables d'en évaluer le plus grand nombre possible avant d'en accueillir, de nouveaux.

Depuis le début de la crise 185.000 personnes sont arrivées en Jordanie, dont 54.000 Egyptiens.

Selon des responsables, la Jordanie a bien du mal à héberger et à nourrir tous les évacués qui arrivent sur son sol. «Nous ne sommes tout simplement pas équipés pour recevoir ici un aussi grand nombre de gens», expliquent-ils.

La société de transports publics a fourni 60 bus pour acheminer les ressortissants arabes de la frontière jusqu'à Amman ou Aqaba. Des avions n'ont cessé de décoller et d'atterrir quotidiennement à l'aéroport international de Queen Alia.

Pour les réfugiés qui attendent un avion les ramenant chez eux, le gouvernement jordanien a mis sur pied des installations d'accueil et d'hébergement.

En se promenant en voiture dans les rues d'Amman on peut voir des réfugiés s'installer autour des mosquées et sur des zones de camping improvisées. «Les mosquées ont été très généreuses et nous ont ouvert leurs portes jusqu'à ce que nous trouvions un

point de chute», explique une vieille ressortissante yéménite. Des Egyptiens et des Soudanais trouvent aussi asile dans les mosquées.

Ne pouvant rentrer chez eux par terre ou par mer, les Yéménites sont de plus en plus nombreux. Mais, comme l'explique l'un d'entre eux, «des Jordaniens sont très gentils et nous ont donné de la nourriture». Les Jordaniens de toutes classes sociales donnent en effet des fruits, du lait et d'autres produits alimentaires riches en calories. Beaucoup de réfugiés sont trop timides pour accepter cette hospitalité, mais la faim et le besoin de récupérer des forces les poussent, timidement, à prendre la nourriture qui leur est proposée.

Selon des responsables, un comité d'assistance est en train d'être mis en place pour organiser l'accueil et l'hébergement des réfugiés. De plus, le ministère du commerce et de l'industrie leur a

ouvert les locaux du parc international d'expositions, près de Marj al-Hamman, et le gouvernement s'efforce de coordonner son action avec les autres pays arabes.

D'autre part, les organisations caritatives et le Queen Alia Fund (QAF) se sont réunis pour installer des équipements d'accueil au centre municipal d'Azrak et au parc international d'expositions d'Amman. Le QAF a également lancé un appel en direction de certains organismes publics ou privés: pour qu'ils contribuent, sous quelques formes que ce soit, aux efforts pour satisfaire les besoins des réfugiés.

Bien qu'il soit en principe destiné à aider principalement les femmes et les enfants, l'UNICEF a annoncé la mise en place d'un comité d'assistance d'urgence pour aider les milliers de réfugiés dans le besoin.

Selon un responsable de l'UNICEF, le gouvernement jordanien travaille actuellement



Crise du Golfe

Craintes pour l'économie jordanienne

Le gouvernement jordanien a présenté jeudi dernier un mémorandum aux Nations Unies pour une étude des effets économiques sur le pays de l'embargo décrété par l'ONU contre l'Irak.

L'embargo sur l'Irak porte en effet un coup dur à l'économie jordanienne. Elle souffre d'ailleurs déjà des conséquences indirectes de la crise du Golfe.

Selon l'économiste F. Al-Fanek, la Jordanie va perdre beaucoup dans cette affaire, quelle qu'en soit l'issue. L'Irak et le Koweït absorbent 28% de nos exportations. Celles-ci sont vitales pour l'économie jordanienne. Les exportations représentent 53% du Produit Intérieur Brut. De plus, en cas d'embargo, le taux de chômage pourrait passer de 20% à 40%, ce qui représente un danger social et politique évident pour le pays. Nous allons perdre une grande partie de l'énorme commerce de transit avec l'Irak.

La Jordanie exporte vers l'Irak des produits manufacturés tels que les produits

agro-alimentaires, les vêtements, les produits pharmaceutiques, les détergents ou les équipements d'irrigation. Elle exporte également des fruits et des légumes.

Le port d'Aqaba revêt une importance capitale pour l'économie jordanienne. Si les navires américains imposent un blocus sur ce port, l'économie jordanienne va se trouver littéralement asphyxiée puisque 90% de ses importations et de ses exportations y transitent. L'acheminement des phosphates, de la potasse, des engrais et de bien d'autres produits passe par l'unique port de la Jordanie. De même, l'importation des produits alimentaires et des matières premières vitales pour l'industrie transite par le «poumon» jordanien d'Aqaba. Pour le directeur du port, Awad Al-Tal, si les livraisons descendent à moins de 20 millions de tonnes par an, une récession sérieuse menace le royaume. Les frais de transit, à eux seuls, représentent 30 à 35% des recettes du port, estimées à 600 millions de dinars par an. Dix mille ca-

mions qui relient le port d'Aqaba aux villes irakiennes seront touchés par cette baisse d'activité. Environ 2.500 ouvriers-dockers travaillant dans le port risquent de se retrouver au chômage. Le port reçoit 2.500 bateaux par an.

Sur un autre front, les effets négatifs de la crise seront très graves. D'abord, l'aide financière accordée à la Jordanie par les Etats pétroliers (Arabie Saoudite, Qatar, Emirats, etc.) sera tarie pour un an au moins, ce qui représente une perte de 400 millions de dollars en devises étrangères indispensables au pays, soit 10 à 15% du total des recettes budgétaires.

De plus, les sommes envoyées par les Jordaniens travaillant dans les pays du Golfe (principalement au Koweït) seront diminuées d'environ 25%. Pour les spécialistes de la Banque Centrale, cela se traduit par la nécessité de réduire les importations d'environ 20% pour les douze mois à venir.

On le voit, le prix à payer pour la Jordanie est élevé.

Néanmoins, les responsables assurent que les activités des différents secteurs de l'économie se poursuivront normalement jusqu'ici. Les déclarations rassurantes se multiplient. La population accepte des sacrifices. Jusqu'à cette semaine, la pression des entrées de citoyens venant d'Irak et du Koweït a été supportée au nom de la solidarité arabe. Ce n'est vraiment qu'en dernier ressort, parce qu'elles ne pouvaient plus faire face, que la Jordanie a fermé le poste frontière irakien de Ruweisah.

Un des signes de la confiance en elle-même de l'économie jordanienne est peut-être la toute prochaine émission de nouveaux billets de banques, destinés à remplacer peu à peu les anciens. Les autorités sont sûres que la ruée sur les liquidités (liée au fait que les Jordaniens retirent leurs avoirs des banques) s'arrêtera bientôt, lorsque les citoyens constateront que les risques ne sont pas si grands.

Suleiman Sweiss



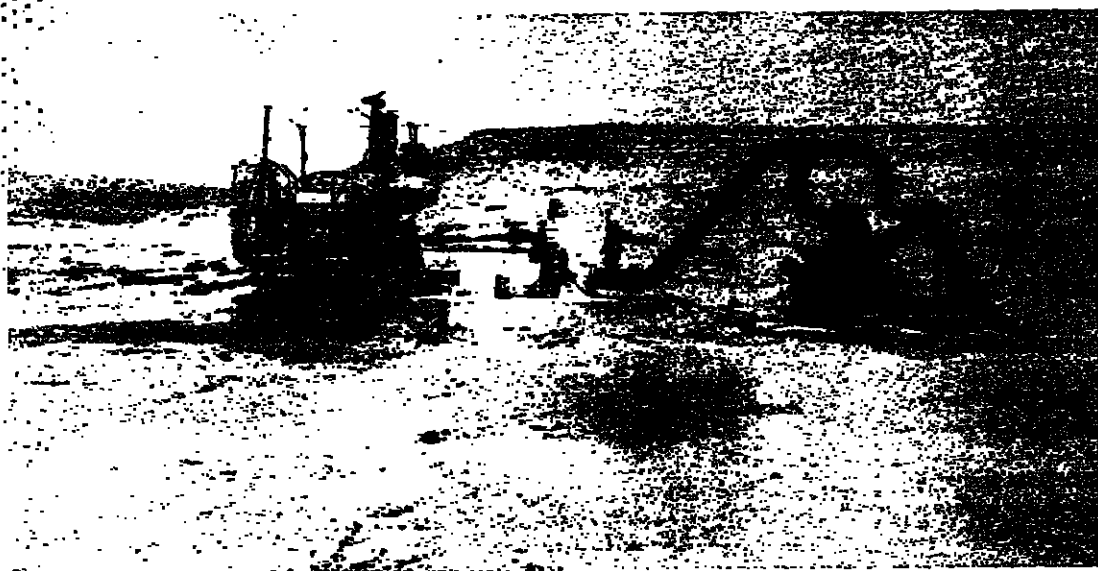
Les femmes jordaniennes ont manifesté cette semaine pour exprimer leur soutien au roi Hussein dans la crise du Golfe.

Alimentation d'Amman en eau

Le compte-gouttes

A Sweileh, à Bayader Wadi el-Sir, dans certains quartiers de Jabal Hussein, les robinets restent désespérément secs et chacun se débrouille comme il peut pour se ravitailler en eau. Le problème est particulièrement aigu cette année du fait de la

sécheresse. Il suffirait d'un peu plus de civisme et de quelques aménagements des réseaux d'aduction d'eau et de transport terrestre pour qu'il n'existe plus.



Le pompage des eaux sous terraines est dangereux pour l'avenir.

L'eau, source de vie devient, par son manque et les coupures quotidiennes, source de problèmes pour certains quartiers d'Amman.

Manque de pluie, abus de la part des agriculteurs, ce problème a des origines variées mais s'avère de plus en plus

crucial. Le manque d'eau affecte tout particulièrement les régions isolées d'Amman, où elle devient un produit particulièrement coûteux. Acheminée par camions et vendue 9 dinars le m3, l'eau devient un luxe dont personne ne peut

se passer. A quelques kilomètres de Bayader Wadi el-Sir, par exemple, le problème de l'eau sévit depuis deux mois et demi. Dans cette région de petite agriculture, l'homme et l'animal souffrent du manque d'eau. Les sources et les puits sont à sec et, pour ces villageois, s'habituer à cet état de choses s'avère un dur apprentissage.

La saison d'été est longue et 9 dinars est un prix trop élevé pour beaucoup. L'approvisionnement en eau se fait à la station «El-Bsharat». Les vendeurs achètent l'eau 2 dinars et la revendent à 9. Une somme qui, selon eux, couvre à peine les frais des distances parcourues chaque jour.

Même problème à Sweileh. Mais dans cette région particulièrement haute, ce n'est pas le prix de l'eau qui est en cause. «Les camions, on ne les

voit presque pas», indique un habitant. De fait, le développement de la cité accentue le problème. Les rues sont trop étroites et les camions n'ont aucun moyen d'accéder à ces quartiers où l'on se ravitaillait individuellement avec des bidons.

Dans les maisons, l'eau ne coule pas, mais il y a souvent des fuites dans les rues. La vétusté des réseaux d'alimentation en eau et les canalisations rouillées ont fait l'objet de plusieurs plaintes de la part des habitants du quartier, qui attendent toujours la solution à ce problème.

Mais au-delà des questions de tuyaux rouillés et d'éloignement, le fond du problème du ravitaillement en eau est ailleurs.

En fait, 76% des eaux potables sont utilisées illégalement par les agriculteurs pour l'irrigation de leurs champs. Au lieu de remplir des réservoirs pendant les pluies, ils préfèrent tourner le robinet, relié directement aux eaux de sources. Des sources qui, alimentées en permanence, suffisent largement à abreuver les terres mais manquent ensuite aux autres consommateurs.

Pour limiter les effets de la pénurie, la Jordanie puise actuellement dans les nappes d'eau qui constituent ses réserves stratégiques. Il est important que les citoyens prennent conscience du danger que cela représente pour l'avenir et partagent plus équitablement ce trésor indispensable, devenu rare et donc précieux.

Abir Younes

Frénésie journalistique

Avez-vous jamais été curieux de savoir comment un journaliste occupe ses journées, notamment en période de crise? Nous allons essayer d'évoquer ici les grands moments d'une journée normale pour un homme de presse.

Le matin, tout commence calmement. L'arôme du café parfume l'air, les différentes marques de cigarettes (chacune révélant un peu de la personnalité du fumeur) sont en place sur les tables, les papiers sont rangés, les crayons taillés et tout le monde a l'air amical du petit matin. La politique est passée en revue et on se met au travail avec des bâillements ennuyés.

D'un coup, les choses se précipitent. Les téléphones (maudite invention) commencent à sonner, les événements abondent, les ordres fusent, les reporters filent d'une traite pour couvrir les manifestations (très fréquentes par les temps qui courent), les arrivées de réfugiés du Koweït ou d'Irak, les conférences de presse, les marches de solidarité, de protestation ou d'organisations charitables.

Le calme revient. Mais pas pour longtemps. Les télévisions, les radios et les journalistes étrangers nous rendent des visites de courtoisie (et de curiosité). On est sympa, on leur parle ou on les ignore: ça dépend un peu de la nationalité et du prestige de l'arrivant. Les appareils photo foudroient partout, les flashes crépitent, nos confrères parlent jusqu'à l'extinction de voix. On attend qu'ils terminent pour reprendre le travail.

A peine a-t-on fini de sourire au dernier confrère, que l'orage arrive. Les reporters sont de retour. Avec de l'information, et des blagues. «Tu connais la dernière?», crient-ils, ignorant que les autres ont du travail sur la planche.

Tous les yeux sont sur lui. S'il a vu capté l'attention, il continue: «Que dit un soldat américain dans le désert d'Arabie Saoudite?... Aucune réponse ne vient, mais tous le regardent et attendent. «La guerre froide me manque!», On rit de bon cœur en s'imaginant le Yankee et son

chewing-gum par 45 degrés à l'ombre.

La journée ne s'arrête pas là. Tous semblent se souvenir tout à coup qu'ils ont soif, fain, qu'ils ont des amis à informer sur les derniers développements. Les téléphones sont occupés en permanence, les lignes sont faibles. On entend à peine ce qu'on dit à l'autre bout du fil et on a honte de demander sans arrêt «pouvez-vous répéter s'il vous plaît?» comme si l'on ne comprenait rien à rien. On crie, on vocifère, le pandémonium se déchaîne.

Pendant ce temps les journalistes chargés de la correction essaient de faire leur devoir. On n'arrive pas à comprendre les textes, on les lit plusieurs fois, on corrige tant bien que mal et on prie le tout-puissant pour que les choses se calment.

La guerre commence ensuite pour les ordinateurs. Ils ne sont jamais disponibles en nombre suffisant. Et en attendant on se rappelle des bons moments, des amis, des parents, des coups de téléphone. C'est déjà le soir. La première tentative de mise en page a échoué. On est fatigué, on s'est querellé avec presque tous les reporters, avec le rédacteur en chef et les monteurs.

On finit la page, on dit bonsoir à tous et, sur les marches de l'escalier, une voix appelle: «Je ne veux pas qu'on donne cette importance à cet événement, il faut refaire la page».

Aussitôt dit, aussitôt fait. Il est déjà presque minuit. Les programmes de la télévision sont terminés. Les nouvelles on les connaît déjà. On nous demande avec avidité des précisions, des opinions. «Je ne peux pas te dire grand chose...» «Impossible, tu travaille au journal!»

J'y travaille, c'est vrai, mais dans quelles conditions? Heureusement, les choses ne sont pas toujours comme ça. Il y a des jours de paix, de calme, d'ennui même parfois.

Finalement, je crois que je préfère cette frénésie. Mais en temps de paix. Notre petite guerre me suffit.

Ica Waldb

A L'AFFICHE

Cinéma soviétique

Le formalisme est-il en vogue?

Le 27 août 1919 marque en Russie la date de la nationalisation du cinéma. Célébrant ce 71ème anniversaire, le Centre culturel soviétique présente lundi 27 août trois documentaires sur l'industrie cinématographique en URSS: deux proposent en bref la vie et l'œuvre des cinéastes Sergueï Youtkevitch et Sergueï Eisenstein, tandis que Un jour dans la vie de Mosfilm, nous invite à une visite guidée du plus vieux studio de l'Union Soviétique. Ce parcours est censé offrir au spectateur un panorama de l'évolution de ce cinéma, de la révolution russe de 1917 à nos jours.

Ceux qui attendent que ce dernier leur donne une idée des différentes lignes directrices du film soviétique seront déçus. Un jour dans la vie de Mosfilm évite toute allusion à ce que l'avenir réserve: il se contente de montrer de façon très générale qu'aujourd'hui on tourne à Mosfilm des métrages en tous genres. Ceux qui cherchent, en revanche, à trouver une signification politique au contenu de ce programme anniversaire, seront peut-être plus satisfaits. Maintenant que la société soviétique se trouve en état d'examen de conscience comme elle l'était durant les années 1917-1928, ils peuvent se demander, par exemple, si la présentation dans ce contexte d'un portrait des deux formalistes farouches qu'étaient Eisenstein et Youtkevitch signifie un retour aux questions de forme en URSS et si ces préoccupations sont en accord avec la politique culturelle de la Russie de la Glasnost et de la Perestroïka.

Car l'histoire du film soviétique nous démontre un phénomène. On peut parler de périodes d'ouverture et de périodes de fermeture. La Révolution de 1917 - période où la société cherchait à se définir - déclencha une recherche frénétique de la forme. Les cinéastes de cette première décennie voulaient transformer les perceptions du public par une manipulation de l'image. La manière de présenter les choses était aussi importante que le sujet lui-même. Ce processus s'appela le montage, et le plus talentueux de ses maîtres s'appela Sergueï Eisenstein (1898-1948), pour qui le montage avait une fonction intellectuelle autant que psychologique et dont Le cuirassé Potemkine (1925) fut l'exemple éminent. Après l'accession de Staline au pouvoir en 1928, Eisenstein se trouva confronté à des difficultés politiques énormes. Pendant l'ère Staline (1928-1953), le formalisme comme méthode de représentation de la réalité fut mis en question et qualifié de méthode surannée. Finalement, il était jugé contre-révolutionnaire et Eisenstein, théoricien, fut une de ses victimes les plus célèbres. Harcelé par la censure, il vit son dernier film, Ivan le terrible (IIe partie) supprimé en 1946 et, après sa mort en 1948, la troisième partie de cette critique voilée du stalinisme, resta inachevée.

Contemporain d'Eisenstein, et l'un de ses camarades de classe, Sergueï Youtkevitch (1904-1985) était lui aussi un formaliste convaincu. S'il échappa au sort de son illustre confrère, c'est qu'il ne débata comme eux-mêmes en scène qu'au début de l'ère stalinienne et n'était donc pas, de ce fait, stigmatisé par ses œuvres ou ses écrits. Plus prudent, il réussit à camoufler son art dans des drames sociaux au contenu idéologique soigné. Contrairement à Eisenstein, il survécut à Staline et trouva une occasion de se venger. A la suite du dégel idéologique de 1956, il tourna un dessin animé d'après la pièce de Maïkovski, Le bal. L'intéressant de cette pièce, écrite en 1928, est qu'elle était déjà dirigée contre la politique culturelle de Staline. Le tragique est que Maïkovski, désespérant de tout changement, en fit son testament. Peu après, il se suicida. Le bal (1962) - film avant-gardiste déclaré - fut une belle revanche. Youtkevitch transforme ce chant du cygne en un hommage au poète futuriste qui avait donné en 1917 une idéologie cohérente au nouveau cinéma.

Aucun de ces courants ou de ces controverses n'est abordé dans les documentaires intitulés Sergueï Youtkevitch et Sergueï Eisenstein. Ils ont, comme Un jour dans la vie de Mosfilm, la forme et la rhétorique de films d'entreprise. Le vocabulaire du commentaire (double en arabe) revient sans cesse sur des qualificatifs de mesure - le grand, l'important, le révolutionnaire - sans rien dire des vicissitudes de ce cinéma à échos culturels et artistiques de premier ordre.

Une soirée morne.

Sami Kamal

La leçon d'arabe

par Sabah Hadidi

Nous vous proposons cette semaine la conjugaison de trois verbes particulièrement utiles: avoir, aller et vouloir. Vous trouverez ensuite quelques mots de vocabulaire très présents ces temps-ci dans les conversations en ville...

CONJUGAISON

Avoir

Andij'ai
Andak: tu as (masc.)
Andek: tu as (fem.)
Andoh: il a

Anda: elle a
Andna: nous avons
Andkon: vous avez
Andhon: ils ou elles ont

Aller

Azhab: je vais
Tazhab: tu vas (masc. et fem.)
Yazhab: il va
Tazhab: elle va

Nazhab: nous allons
Tazhabon: vous allez
Yazhabon: ils vont
Yazhabna: elles vont

Vouloir

Ouaid: je veux
Tourid: tu veux (masc.)
Touridna: tu veux (fem.)
Yourid: il veut
Tourid: elle veut

Nourid: nous voulons
Touridkon: vous voulez
Youridkon: ils veulent
Youridna: elles veulent

VOCABULAIRE

Harb: la guerre
Sihm: la paix
Houdoud: la frontière
Malek: le roi
Amir: le prince
Amira: la princesse
Rais: le président
Wasir: le ministre
Jarideh: le journal
Malek: la revue
Akhhar: les nouvelles
Sahaf: le journaliste
Jesh: l'armée

Saroukh: la fusée
Askari: un militaire
Askaria: une militaire
Kona: la force
Harab: militer
Moutamar: la conférence
Finkok: l'hôtel
Ghoureh: la chambre
Karieh: le village
Balad ou Madina: la ville
Markase: le centre
Salyarab: la voiture
Malabes: les vêtements

CINEMA

TELEVISION

DIMANCHE

17h55 - Deaver, le dernier dinosaure. Dessin animé.
18h20 - Le raft en vélo. Documentaire sportif.
18h30 - Ca c'est du cinéma.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Carnet de notes. Extraits de musique classique.

LUNDI

18h05 - Le vol du kangourou. Documentaire sur le survol en ballon de certaines régions d'Australie.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Magazine sportif hebdomadaire.

MARDI

18h10 - Badjoss. Documentaire sur cette île des Philippines.
18h40 - Des chiffres et des lettres. Jeu.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Aujourd'hui en Jordanie: magazine local réalisé et présenté par Saleh Maï.

MERCREDI

18h00 - SOS disparus. Série policière.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Sélection de musique classique.

JEUDI

18h10 - "Mollinismo": dessin animé.
18h40 - Des Chiffres et des Lettres. Jeu.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Documentaires sur le Québec et le Bangladesh.

VENREDI

17h25 - "Le mariage de chiffon". Film.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - La révolution de l'antiquaire. Série documentaire sur l'histoire de la science.

SAMEDI

18h10 - Images et réalités. Documentaire sur les problèmes de vue et la rééducation de la vue.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Aujourd'hui en France. Magazine sur le mode de vie français.

Vous écrivez?

Si la plume vous démange, que vous écrivez en français... "Le Jourdain" vous ouvre ses deux pages hebdomadaires. Vos idées de sujets, locaux et régionaux, comme vos suggestions y sont les bienvenues.

Jean-Marc Bordes, French section, Jordan Times.
P.O. Box 6716. Tél: 667171.

JEUX

LE SAVIEZ-VOUS ?

TOURISME. Les touristes semblent boudier la Côte d'Azur cette année. Leur nombre a diminué de 30% en juillet par rapport au même mois de 1989 sur les plages du sud-est de la France. Les hôtels affichent une baisse de fréquentation de 20% et les campings de 40%. Pour le début du mois le phénomène s'explique par l'effet du Mondiale, mais il semble que la Côte d'Azur souffre de la concurrence des autres régions françaises, des pays étrangers (notamment de l'est), et du coût de la vie dans cette région.

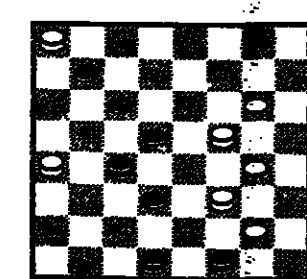
FORET. La déforestation en zone tropicale s'est considérablement accélérée au cours des dix dernières années, passant de 94.000 km2 en 1980 à 168.000 km2 en 1990, selon une étude de l'organisation des Nations-Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture (FAO). Pour le directeur de cette organisation la pollution et la pauvreté sont les deux pires ennemis de la forêt.

ESPACE. Boeing a été choisie par la NASA pour expérimenter des cultures végétales dans l'espace. L'expérience sera menée à bord d'un satellite qui devrait être mis sur orbite en 1993. Le but à long terme est de permettre aux astronautes de cultiver leur propre nourriture et de produire de l'oxygène tout en absorbant le gaz carbonique et en purifiant l'eau.

DAMES

Problème N. 25.

Les blancs gagnent en six coups.



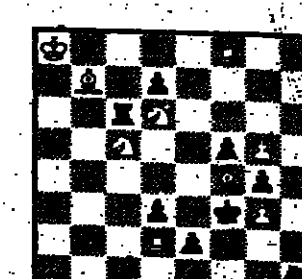
Solution du problème N. 24:

B. 15-20; N. 6-24; B. 9-5; N. 4-18; B. 5-23.

ECHECS

Problème N. 25.

Mut avec les blancs en deux coups.



Solution du problème N. 24:

B. 15-20; N. 6-24; B. 9-5; N. 4-18; B. 5-23.

A la pointe du progrès

Par ailleurs, l'«Atalante» dispose d'équipements d'analyse et d'écoute à l'extrême pointe des technologies disponibles. Il y a par exemple un sondeur multifaisceaux capable de cartographier les fonds marins avec une extrême précision sur une largeur égale à trois fois la

profondeur. La zone arrière du bateau a également été conçue pour mettre aisément en œuvre les moyens les plus performants de l'exploration des mers: le sous-marin «Nautile» et la capsule «Cyana», ainsi que les diverses techniques de carottage et de prélèvements par grands fonds.

Ajoutons encore un détail d'ordre technique: l'«Atalante» sera un navire particulièrement silencieux, utilisant le mode de propulsion mixte diesel-alternateur. Ce silence épargnera les espèces vivantes et permettra une exploitation optimale des appareils de mesures basés sur l'acoustique.

L'«Atalante», qui sera mise en service vers la fin de l'année, va ainsi nous fournir une quantité d'éléments qui nous manquaient jusqu'à présent dans la connaissance et la compréhension de l'océan, qu'il s'agisse de la circulation des masses d'eau, des grands cycles biogéochimiques, de la géophysique et de la géodynamique, de la lithosphère, des structures paléontologiques et sédimentaires, du monde vivant, etc...

Elle permettra aussi d'étudier et surtout de mieux connaître cette masse énorme qu'est l'océan qui est à la fois, selon certains, la source fondamentale d'aliments pour le prochain millénaire et, en tous cas, la clé de voûte du système climatique de notre planète par ses capacités, d'une part, à stocker et à redistribuer l'énergie calorifique du Soleil, et, d'autre part, à absorber les surproductions de gaz carbonique conséquences de l'industrialisation.

L'«Atalante» va mener à bien différents programmes: celui qui étudie les échanges océan/atmosphère dans les zones tropicales (générateurs de cyclones), celui qui s'intéresse aux forages à grande profondeur (étude de la croûte terrestre, du noyau central, mais aussi recherches minières et pétrolières), celui qui s'occupe des courants inhabituels et des structures sous-marines inexplicables allant de la tectonique des plaques jusqu'aux volcans et montagnes sous marins aux comportements surprenants... Beaucoup de travail en perspective, donc, pour ce bateau tout neuf armé par IFREMER.

Michel Delebarre
Ministre français
des Transports et de la Mer

Gulf crisis cloud outlook for world grain trade

PARIS (R) — The Gulf crisis could stoke up competition for sales among grain exporting nations, hamper global trade talks and push down wheat and barley prices, trade experts say.

Iraq, off limits to trade under U.N. and European Community embargoes, was expected this year to buy about 3.6 million tonnes of foreign wheat, 700,000 tonnes of maize and 500,000 tonnes of barley, according to grain trade sources.

While Iraq is believed to have fulfilled much of its needs through to the end of this year, it would normally have bought large quantities before next July, they said.

These supplies, traditionally from Australia, Canada and the

United States, will be available for other destinations.

"All of these countries will have to find other destinations for their products, which will without any doubt complicate GATT negotiations," Pierre Cormoreche, president of the French Permanent Assembly of Agriculture Chambers, said.

Cormoreche was referring to the Uruguay Round of world trade talks under the auspices of the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which have entered a sensitive stage before their scheduled end in December.

At those talks, the European Community, a major grain exporter, has resisted efforts by the United States, Canada and Australia to dismantle export subsidies.

European traders said they expected competition between wheat exporters for world market share, already heated in such markets as North Africa and the Middle East, to intensify in coming weeks, pushing down prices that have already dropped by almost 20 per cent since July 1.

Downward pressure on prices will also be exerted by the prospect of a record 1990 world wheat crop and a sharp drop-off in Turkey's wheat imports as it recovers from drought and production incentives take hold.

An outbreak of hostilities could jeopardise grain sales to Iraq's Mideast neighbours, which together imported an estimated 13 million tonnes of wheat last year.

Mideast tension sends prices of rubber to 10-month high

LONDON (R) — The Gulf crisis has helped put a bounce back into the world rubber market. Fears of supply disruptions have pushed the price to a 10-month high.

The International Natural Rubber Organisation (INRO) daily indicator price for Friday was 190.55 Malaysian cents (70 U.S. cents) a kilogramme up from 186.3 cents (69 U.S.) the previous day and a four-year low in July of 178 cents (66 U.S.).

"We are going to remain with a very volatile market and we could see higher prices in the event of a worsening Middle Eastern situation," one trader said.

"Yesterday (Thursday) we saw some very sharp rises, probably the steepest in rubber prices in any one single day we have had for a very long time," one trader said.

Like most other commodity markets from aluminium to tea, prices are being driven by speculation about how war in the Gulf or even continued tension there would affect trade.

Good supplies and a market regulated by INRO mean that traders have built up few stocks of rubber, most of which is used in the manufacture of tyres.

The trade relies on a regular flow of container vessels from Asia, source of most of the world's supply and dealers are now worried that war might cause serious disruption to shipping.

"Any interruption to the flow would cause the most horrendous problems to consumers whether the vessels were going to the U.S. or Europe," a trader said.

The market started to edge up about 10 days ago because of buying by China.

"Their economy seems to be improving after a period of very low growth rates so they need rubber," international rubber study group economist Prachaya

Jumpasut said.

Higher oil prices caused by the crisis in the Middle East have also contributed to the rise. Oil is a major input in the production of synthetic rubber.

"Natural and synthetic rubber are not exactly substitutable but they tend to move along with each other," Jumpasut said.

The rise in oil prices has however also prompted fears of an international recession, which could diminish demand for rubber.

"What were we all worried about is some form of recession which would affect demand for rubber. My own view is that it is far too early to assume anything about the longer term impact of the Middle Eastern situation," analyst Martin Wedgewood of London brokers Smith New Court said.

"I think prices could rise further if there is no recession," he added.

Traders skim oil profits; prices fall

NEW YORK (R) — Oil prices were knocked lower Friday as the market paused from its staggering three-week rally for a bout of profit-taking.

"This market's been going straight up for so long and it tends to over-extend itself. Some people are also selling on the prospect of an OPEC meeting," said one trader. But most analysts said OPEC ministers meeting informally in Vienna Sunday will have problems agreeing on boosting output.

West Texas Intermediate, the U.S. benchmark, finished down a steep \$1.02 at \$30.91 a barrel for October delivery. New York unblended petrol for September ended down 3.89 cents at \$1.0466 a gallon (3.785 litre).

Thursday, world oil prices finished at their highest levels in more than seven years. Just days earlier, Monday, petrol futures finished at record highs since they began trading in 1984.

Traders say crude oil prices are poised for a violent jerk up to \$30 — or a crash to \$20.

"We're sitting on a rocket which could take us to the sky," said one international oil trader. "But if we fall off, we're going to drop like a stone."

In the present jittery market, which is trading on emotions more than on fundamentals, any major news can kick off a quantum shift in prices.

Oil traders say war in the Middle East would mean \$50 a barrel for crude.

But if the Gulf crisis caused by Iraq's takeover of Kuwait is resolved, the market will scurry back to the pre-invasion levels, they say.

West sees no oil gap to fill from stocks of governments

PARIS (R) — Western governments see no need to draw down strategic oil stocks now because of the Gulf crisis, a senior official at the West's Paris-based energy watchdog body said Friday.

No physical shortage of crude oil has emerged because of the United Nations ban on trade with Iraq and Kuwait, the official at the International Energy Agency (IEA) said.

The two countries produce around four million barrels a day of oil, but the West's oil stocks are at present high.

"Governments as of now do not see a gap which needs filling by government stocks because of a physical loss," he said.

Supplies were being met by companies drawing on their oil stocks and from deliveries of crude already in tankers close to consumer markets. That would continue for the rest of August.

For September, the official said the IEA did not envisage a physical shortage of oil as long as more oil is produced to replace the lost Iraqi and Kuwaiti crude.

He expects Saudi Arabia will increase production. "We have contacts with the (oil) industry... with private and state-owned

companies around the world. I am not going to talk source but the Saudi minister's statement is a statement to be believed."

Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer has said that his country may unilaterally increase production, even in the absence of an OPEC agreement. OPEC is due to begin informal discussions in Vienna Sunday.

"We have received information from Venezuela of their intention to increase their production. There are certain other countries that will also increase their production," he stressed.

He was unable to say if output is already being raised. But market fears of a cut in Saudi output were misplaced, he said. It is cutting export of refinery products, not crude oil.

Saudi's Nazer said his country could add two million barrels of crude a day, while the United Arab Emirates, a Saudi Gulf Arab ally, and Venezuela could contribute 500,000 barrels a day each at short notice.

The IEA, was set up after the 1973 oil shock to watch over energy security for the world's richest nations, the 24-member Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

World stocks slightly recover

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market rallied as the world's battered financial markets staggered into the weekend optimistic that a Middle East war had been averted — at least temporarily.

But the recovery worldwide was based more on a belief that stock prices had bottomed out than any relief over the latest developments in the Iraq-U.S. standoff.

"The fear from the selling has run its course like a fever runs its course and then breaks," said Christopher Baker of Prudential-Bache Securities Inc. in Boston.

"Maybe Monday morning there will be some more panic, but for the time being it's gone."

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones average rose 49.50 points to 2,532.92, erasing most of a 76-point drop Thursday. But the Dow average, which measures 30 big industrial company stocks, still ended the week down 111.88 points.

Stocks also rebounded in Europe and Japan. But despite the gains, the crisis spawned by Iraq's takeover of Kuwait has erased hundreds of billions of dollars in the value of U.S. stocks.

After Iraq let a deadline for Western countries to withdraw their embassies in Kuwait, financial market participants traded as if the threat of an all-out conflict had receded.

Stock markets worldwide posted gains. Japan's Nikkei average rose 428.13 points to 24,165.76, a 1.8 per cent rise. Its fourth-largest drop after Thursday. The Frankfurt market gained about 38 points, while London's stock exchange closed higher for the first time in seven trading days.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones average soared nearly 40 points in the first 15 minutes of trading before dropping back until an afternoon rally fed by Gorbachev's comment.

U.S. recession looms

WASHINGTON (R) — The possibility of a recession in the United States grew more likely Friday as the government reported that economic growth slowed to a sluggish 1.2 per cent annual rate between April and June.

The pace slowed from 1.7 per cent in the previous three months. The inflation-adjusted gross national product (GNP) growth rate for the second quarter of the year was unchanged from the Commerce Department's initial estimate last month.

Even though GNP was not revised up as expected, the latest report offered a bit of encouragement by showing that the economy drew more strength from consumer spending and exports and less from inventory growth than previously reported.

But the report still showed a slowing economy that will become more lethargic in the second half of the year and probably deteriorate into a recession in part because of the Middle East crisis-induced surge in oil prices, economists said.

"Things were already slowing," said economist David Wyss of a forecasting firm in Lexington, Massachusetts.

In the first half of this year GNP — the total output of goods and services — grew at a lackluster 1.5 per cent pace. Last year it rose only 2.5 per cent, the slowest since the current record-long economic expansion began at the end of 1982.

Commerce officials said GNP would have to grow at a 2.9 per cent annual rate in the second half to meet a government target for 2.0 per cent growth this year. Even if oil prices quickly re-

turned to their pre-crisis levels, economists doubted that target could met, given the slowing pace of consumer spending, a construction slump and July jobless rate that rose to a two-year high 5.5 per cent.

"The jump in the unemployment rate in July and soft jobs picture is going to damage consumer spending in any case," said economist Allen Sinai of the Boston Co. "But the Iraqi event will devastate consumer confidence."

"I think this has been brewing for years," added economist Larry Chimerine, a senior fellow at the Economic Strategy Institute, a Washington research group. "I think we're going to see the economy flounder and this could take several years."

OPEC confronts historic challenge

VIENNA (R) — OPEC President Sadek Bousenna of Algeria said Saturday the group should help alleviate any real oil shortages caused by the Gulf crisis which posed one of OPEC's biggest-ever challenges.

"I hope to God we save OPEC," he told reporters in the lobby of the Vienna Hotel where most, if not all, the 13 oil ministers are expected to join him in consultations Sunday.

He said he thought the group should, at the right time, help alleviate any oil shortages.

Neither in the lobby nor in an interview with Reuters Saturday did Bousenna elaborate on what he saw as the threat to the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), founded Sept. 10, 1960, in Baghdad.

But the challenge is daunting.

Among core founder members, Iraq, having annexed Kuwait, appears close to war with Saudi Arabia.

Prices have soared some \$10 above OPEC's declared target of \$21 per barrel, threatening to revive its old image as a grasping group and scare the West into using less of its oil.

The United States wants OPEC to raise production above current quotas now to help offset the loss of some four million barrels daily of Iraqi and Kuwaiti exports, blocked by United Nations sanctions.

Saudi Arabia with up to two million barrels of spare capacity and Venezuela and the United Arab Emirates with around 500,000 barrels each say they will turn up the taps with or without approval from the rest of OPEC.

Iraq will scarcely grant such approval, delegates say.

Nor, says Bousenna, had a majority of the 13 members consented to a recent Saudi-Venezuelan call for a full decision-taking conference to seek an accord on production.

Taiwan increases oil prices

TAIPEI (AP) — The economics ministry Friday announced increases in oil and gas prices of about 30 per cent in response to the increasing cost of oil caused by Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

The increase brought Taiwan's oil prices to their highest level since December 1987.

"The increases are inevitable because of our heavy reliance on foreign oil," Economics Minister Vincent Siew told a news conference. Taiwan imports 430,000 barrels of crude oil daily, accounting for 95 per cent of its oil consumption.

Siew said the government also decided to offset the higher oil costs by lowering a commodity tax for oil products to 30 per cent from 60 per cent. The government was expected to lose about 14 billion Taiwan dollars (\$509 million) in annual tax revenue because of the cuts, he added.

He said the oil hike would probably increase inflation by 0.54 percentage points this year. Taiwan's annual inflation rate was 4.81 per cent in July.

Last week, authorities predicted Taiwan's economic growth this year would only reach 5.24 per cent because of the rising oil prices, lower than seven per cent projected earlier. Taiwan's economic grew by 7.33 per cent last year.

News of the oil hike pushed Taiwan's stock index to its lowest point in 30 months. Share prices plummeted 197.90 points, or 5.94 per cent, closing at 3,135.56 points in sluggish trading.

Meanwhile, Premier Hsu Pei-Tsun urged Taiwanese to cooperate with the government in energy conservation and called for the use of fuel-efficient facilities.

After the price increase, regular and unleaded gasoline rose 28 per cent to 18.50 Taiwan dollars per litre (2.59 per gallon), regular diesel shot up 33 per cent to 12 Taiwan dollars per litre (\$1.68 per gallon).

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Egyptians quit Iraq project

ISMAILIA, Egypt (R) — An Egyptian company has withdrawn from a project to build 13 new quays at Iraq's main port of Basra because of the Gulf crisis, a company official has said.

The official said the Canal Harbour Works Company won the contract after fighting in the Iran-Iraq war was halted in August 1988. Work had been due to start on Aug. 20. After the Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait, Iraq rejected a request to delay construction until after tension eased, the official said. The official also said a Western blockade of Iraqi ports in the Gulf made it impossible for the company to transport needed equipment. The project was aimed at easing congestion at Basra, which is located on the Shatt Al Waterway near the border with Iran.

Turkey hikes petrol prices again

ANKARA (R) — Turkey, deprived of oil supplies from Iraq, raised petrol prices by more than 23 per cent Saturday. It was the second price increase announced by the State Petroleum Office since Iraq's Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait which has pushed crude prices from \$22 a barrel to about \$30. Normal grade petrol went up by 23.6 per cent to 1,796 lira (66.9 cents) a litre and super grade by 23.2 per cent to 1,996 lira (74.4 cents). Petrol prices last went up by 15 per cent on Aug. 7. Turkey, complying with international sanctions against Baghdad, has shut an Iraqi pipeline across its territory. The pipeline provided Turkey with more than 60 per cent of its consumption needs at fixed, favourable prices.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, August 25, 1990		Central Bank official rates	
Buy	Sell	French franc	125.4 126.2
U.S. dollar	655.0 659.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	447.1 449.8
Pound Sterling	1272.4 1280.0	Deutch guilder	373.6 375.8
Dutchmark	420.6 423.1	Swedish crown	114.4 115.1
Swiss franc	516.1 519.2	Italian lira (for 100)	56.7 57.0
		Belgian franc (for 10)	204.8 206.0

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West African peacekeeping force lands in Monrovia

MONROVIA (Agencies) — Troops of a West African peacekeeping force sent to end Liberia's civil war began landing in Monrovia Saturday after earlier fighting by rebels around the port delayed their ships from docking.

Occasional gunfire could still be heard one or two kilometres away as peacekeeping troops dressed in green camouflage uniforms and white helmets lined up on the quayside Saturday morning to await orders.

Officers of the force of at least 3,500 men said the gunfire was caused by gleeful fighters of Prince Johnson's rebel faction shooting in the air to welcome them.

Johnson came to the dockside to welcome the force, which has the task of ending a three-sided conflict in which thousands of people have been killed in eight months.

The force arrived Friday evening at 6 p.m. (1800 GMT) on board a Ghanaian container ship, and a Nigerian naval assault ship escorted by four Ghanaian and Nigerian patrol vessels and a tug.

The force, made up of soldiers from Sierra Leone, Guinea, Nigeria, Gambia and Ghana, had no armed opposition when it finally docked after its voyage from Sierra Leone. But it had earlier moved back out to sea when gunfire erupted in the port area Friday afternoon.

Most of the city appeared calm Saturday and military sources said the peacekeeping force sent by five of the 16 members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) had

not yet been deployed outside the port.

The tanks and armoured cars on the assault ship had been driven ashore but vehicles on the container ship still had to be unloaded.

Johnson's rebels and the beleaguered government of President Samuel Doe have backed the peacekeeping force. But the other rebel force led by Charles Taylor which controls most of the country has sworn to attack it.

Taylor's spokesman Tom Woewiyu told Reuters in neighbouring Ivory Coast Friday: "If ECOWAS attempts to land we will fight till every one of them is dead."

Johnson has been observing a truce with some 500 soldiers still loyal to Doe who is confined to a small area of Monrovia around his fortified mansion on an Atlantic cliff-top.

Reuter correspondent Gill Tudor said Taylor's rebels attack an airfield in the east of the city about four kilometres from Doe's mansion. She said the fighters, many of them poorly trained, seemed unable to breach Doe's army's defences.

Taylor has the bulk of his forces, which he says number 10,000 trained guerrillas, around Monrovia.

The ECOWAS force has been mandated to enforce a ceasefire and create conditions for setting up an interim government to hold elections within 12 months.

Taylor invaded Liberia last December from the Ivory Coast to topple Doe whom he accused of corruption and human rights abuse. The rebels have received

arms from one ECOWAS state, Burkina Faso, which have been shipped through another, the Ivory Coast.

The task force's chief of staff, Brig. Cyril Igweze of Nigeria, said Thursday on Nigerian state television that the West African troops have no desire to shoot their way into Monrovia, but he warned that "we are able and willing to defend ourselves if attacked."

Meanwhile, American Andrew Voros walked out of a jail in war-ravaged Liberia with only a pair of jeans — and many horror stories.

Voros, who spent the last four years documenting the destruction of the last virgin rain forest in West Africa, had his work looted. He also saw a friend tortured by soldiers who later told him his friend had been killed. And he has memories of bodies littering streets in Liberia's capital, Monrovia.

The 33-year-old New Jersey man was jailed for eight days in Monrovia by soldiers loyal to President Samuel Doe. The U.S. embassy engineer Voros' release, U.S. Marines got him out of the country Saturday and he returned Tuesday to his home in Rahway, 16 kilometres southwest of Newark.

"Since I was released, I've kept the loss of my friends and work out of my mind," he said Thursday by telephone from his home. "I'm so happy to be alive."

The eight-month-old rebellion to oust Doe reached Monrovia in June. Since then, the city has been battered by rockets and mortars, bodies litter the streets,

and beleaguered residents have gone without fresh food, water and electricity.

At least 5,000 people have been killed, most of them civilians.

"There were people eating dogs and dogs eating people in the street," Voros said.

A month ago, he helped care for survivors of an army massacre of hundreds of refugees in a Lutheran Church. "It was horrifying — there were children with feet and hands blown off, women with legs ripped open and breasts blown off," he said.

Voros said he survived prison because of the defence Africans show to white Americans. "I got to wear my jeans during the day. Everyone else was stripped," he said.

Soldiers would accuse him of being a CIA agent at one point and then ask for his help in getting a visa to the United States. "You don't know how many soldiers took my U.S. address down," he said.

Voros and his close friend, Col. Christopher Doe, a former finance director for the army who is not related to the president, were arrested at Voros' house by soldiers who accused them of supporting the rebels.

On the fourth day of their imprisonment, "Christie was brought in, stripped and beaten with a cartridge belt in front of me," Voros said. The next day a soldier told Voros his friend had been killed.

The house was looted of all valuables, he said. "Everything I worked for four years was in my house," he said.



Liberian rebels loyal to Charles Taylor fire at government troops in the eastern suburbs of Monrovia

U.S. cuts helicopter programme to save \$7.8 billion

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said Friday he had ordered the army to cut its planned purchases of a new-generation attack and reconnaissance helicopter by nearly half for a long-term saving of about \$7.8 billion.

The army will buy 1,292 of the helicopters, which are still on the drawing board, instead of the previously planned 2,096, Cheney said. The yearly rate of production will be 120 instead of 216.

The change will cut the programme's total cost to \$34.2 billion from the originally projected \$42 billion, the army said. But it will increase the cost of each helicopter produced because the research and development costs will be spread among fewer aircraft.

The army said each helicopter is expected to cost \$8.9 million, up from the previous estimate of \$7.5 million.

Cheney said the demonstration phase of the programme will be extended by two years to allow for full testing of a prototype.

Two corporate teams are competing for the production contract. One is comprised of McDonnell Douglas Helicopter Co. and Bell Helicopter Textron. The other is Boeing Helicopters and Sikorsky Aircraft Co.

A single contracting team for full-scale development of the helicopter is to be chosen next February.

"I am convinced that the light helicopter is essential to our long-term strategy of meeting worldwide requirements with a smaller, lighter army force structure," Cheney said in a prepared statement after a department review of the programme.

The new helicopter is designed to perform reconnaissance at night, in adverse weather conditions, at high altitudes and in hot climates, the Pentagon said.

The Bush administration's budget request for the 1991 fiscal year that begins Oct. 1 includes \$465 million for research, development, testing and evaluation of the new-generation helicopter, but Congress is expected to be approved a smaller total.

49 Vietnamese to return home

BANGKOK (AP) — Forty-nine Vietnamese who fled their country by boat will voluntarily return home next week in the first major repatriation from camps in Thailand, a United Nations official said Friday.

The Vietnamese will return Tuesday on a chartered Air Vietnam flight to Ho Chi Minh City. Three others will join them if their documentation is finished by then.

The repatriation would offer hope for resolving the problem of the thousands of Vietnamese in Thailand, whom Western countries won't resettle because they are classified as economic migrants and not political refugees.

"There will be a series of repatriations from now on," said the U.N. official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

More than 100 others in Thailand have applied to return under the programme sponsored by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and some of them may leave next month, he said.

So far, only nine Vietnamese have returned home from Thailand with UNHCR assistance since the boat people exodus began with the 1975 Communist takeover in Vietnam.

Siberian city shaken by third night of rioting

MOSCOW (R) — Rioters in the Soviet city of Chelyabinsk smashed cars and shop windows and tried to storm a government office in a third successive night of protests over food, tobacco and other shortages, TASS news agency said Saturday.

Some 1,500 people marched on the regional Communist Party headquarters in the Ural Mountains city late Friday night and held a rally demanding better supplies of food and consumer goods.

Earlier, TASS said a crowd of drunken youths gathered near a local government office, target of protests since Wednesday. It said security forces had rounded up several teenagers armed with petrol bombs.

More than 100 people were arrested and dozens injured in the first two days of rioting. TASS said that figure grew Friday night before the crowds finally dispersed early Saturday morning, smashing windows as they left.

The riots started when a queue for alcohol got out of control at Chelyabinsk's largest supermarket. Salesmen refused to open the doors without police to maintain order and people then went on the rampage.

On Friday night, the disturbances spread to the city centre. Police tried to stop crowds mar-

ching towards party headquarters, but local members of parliament said they would take responsibility for maintaining law and order.

TASS said several cars and an ambulance were smashed. At midnight, protesters rallied in front of the party headquarters where party and government officials faced a torrent of abuse as they tried to make speeches.

There were calls for the release of those arrested during this week's riots, the worst violence so far reported in a series of disturbances across the Soviet Union related to acute shortages of cigarettes and other basic items.

"Without waiting for a response, a group of hoodlums tried to storm the city's Interior Ministry office, but police managed to thwart the attack," TASS said.

Chelyabinsk government officials have demanded to know who was responsible for ordering police to use rubber batons to disperse the demonstrations Thursday.

The independent Postfactum news agency said: "Hundreds of residents suffered from the clubs among them, the region's radio correspondent, Sergei Zverev, the TV correspondent, regional deputy Eleonora Vladinskaya and others."

Cambodia rejects new resistance demands

BANGKOK (AP) — Cambodia's Vietnamese-installed government has rejected the guerrillas' latest demands on the make-up of an interim authority.

The state radio sharply rebuffed the guerrillas' call in Peking Wednesday for more talks with the government on an early formation of a Supreme National Council. A text of Wednesday's broadcast was seen in Bangkok Friday.

The guerrilla leaders, meeting in Peking, said the council should be "the unique, legitimate body and source of authority throughout the transitional period" before a general election.

The state radio said this contradicted what already had been agreed upon by Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen and Prince Norodom Sihanouk. Sihanouk leads the three-party guerrilla coalition that the United Nations considers the legitimate government.

"According to that (earlier) idea, the Supreme National Council is just a symbol of nation-

al sovereignty, independence and unity while the existing administrative structures of the two governments are to be maintained," the broadcast said.

Hun Sen also has maintained that the council already was formed in his talks with Sihanouk in Tokyo in June.

That agreement all through, however, after the Khmer Rouge objected that the resistance was not getting enough seats on the council.

That radio broadcast blamed the Khmer Rouge for the guerrilla statement in Peking.

The Khmer Rouge was ousted in the late 1978 Vietnamese invasion that installed the new government. During its nearly four-year reign, the Khmer Rouge killed hundreds of thousands of people in executions and radical agrarian policies.

Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan met in Peking with Sihanouk and the leader of the third guerrilla group, Son Sann of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front.

U.S. experts may never solve Magellan's problems

PASADENA, California (R) — U.S. scientists have said they may never know what caused a computer aboard the space probe Magellan to "run amok" and were concentrating on ways to control the wayward machine.

The spacecraft twice lost communication with Earth in the last eight days as it orbited Venus, and Project Manager Tony Spear told a news conference he expected it to happen again.

"I have received two phone calls in the night," he said in a reference to the malfunctions, "and I expect we're going to have another phone call. We have to plan on it. We have to believe that it's going to happen again."

The veteran space manager, who has handled several Mariner and Viking space probes during his 28 years at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory here, said he had three priorities — to maintain Magellan in a safe state, to rest his crew of scientists who have been working 18 hours a day for the last eight days, and to develop

a means of "kick-barting" the craft by signals sent from Earth should it go off the air again.

"My heart can't stand another 17 hours loss of signal," he said in a reference to Tuesday's blackout.

Magellan first went off the air for 12 hours last Thursday. John Slomsky, the spacecraft system's engineer, said computer readouts from Magellan indicated the craft Tuesday was swinging wildly in space like a pendulum.

He theorised that the maverick onboard computer was telling the craft to test go in one direction and then in another.

Spear said Magellan was now targeted to start its mission of mapping the surface of Venus using radar scanners in mid-September, two weeks behind schedule. "But this very contingent on what the problem is and how many more times we are going to get hit by this computer runaway," he added.

COLUMN

TB may kill 4 million in Third World

ATLANTA (R) — Tuberculosis has become a greater health threat because of its interaction with the AIDS virus and may kill up to four million people in Third World countries this year, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) said. The CDC reported that despite an effective treatment costing as little as \$123 per person, more people in developing countries are killed by tuberculosis (TB) than by any other germ-cause disease except measles. While TB's highest death counts come from densely populated regions of South and East Asia, the agency reported that residents of sub-Saharan Africa are at the greatest risk. The CDC said in its weekly report that groups such as the World Health Organisation and the World Bank are increasingly concerned by the sharp increase in TB cases due to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). People infected with the TB bacteria often do not develop tuberculosis, but medical experts say persons whose immune system has been weakened by AIDS are at far greater risk of getting the lung disease.

Man who videotaped rape gets life term

DALLAS (AP) — Jurors who recommended a life sentence for a man convicted of aggravated sexual assault expressed outrage over a 72-minute videotape the rapist made of the attack. "I was disgusted. I wanted to beat him to death," said juror Steve Gavlick. Timothy Kehoe, 30, appeared to wipe away a tear when state District Judge Larry Baraka affirmed the sentence. Several of the jurors said they were angered by the videotape that showed Kehoe beating the woman into submission and forcing her to perform various sex acts. Police confiscated the tape from Kehoe's Dallas apartment. The victim, whose name has not been released, said she felt vindicated by the life term. "It was very difficult and I just wanted to put it behind me when it happened," the 25-year-old woman said as she was leaving the courtroom. "But my duty to the community and to society... I knew I had to put this man behind bars where he belonged."

Jumbo Jet loses part of engine

ATHENS (R) — Part of engine fell off an Olympic Airways Jumbo Jet and crashed into an Athens suburb, causing panic among residents but no casualties, police said. An Athens airport official said the engine section, weighing 150 kilogram, fell from the Boeing 747 shortly after it took off for Australia carrying 325 crew. The plane returned to the airport and landed safely. "I was going to work and saw the part crashing on a tree with an incredible sound. At first I thought it was a meteor," Panos Koulouris, a resident of Moschato south of Athens said. "It had fallen a few meters to the right there would have been human victims. A number of people and cars were passing from there at the time," he said. Olympic Greece's state-owned airline, said a group of specialists were examining the cause of the incident.

'Messiah' disrupts politicians' statements

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Former Socialist Premier Andreas Papandreu called on Jesus Christ to intervene in the Gulf crisis, minutes after a man jumped in front of him and claimed to be the messiah. The incident occurred as Papandreu and Communist Party chief Kiriakos Florakis prepared to make statements on the Gulf crisis before television cameras in the parliament building. State television showed a short man with curly white hair and a beard barging between the two party leaders and shouting into reporters' microphones. "What I must speak first, I am Jesus Christ the Messiah," the unidentified man shouted. The party leaders and reporters were speechless as security officials attempted to stop him. "The situation (in the Gulf) is indeed so critical that it warrants the intervention of Jesus Christ," the semi-official Athens News Agency quoted Papandreu as saying as the protesting man was dragged away by police. Later, the duty officer at parliament's police precinct said he could not identify the man and knew nothing about the incident. A spokesman at police headquarters said that "this is not a police matter."

South African police test new powers in crackdown on violence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Police and soldiers tested their sweeping new powers to quell clashes between black factions Saturday with a five-hour night raid on hostels in Kagiso, scene of some of the worst fighting.

One thousand police and troops cordoned off the township west of Johannesburg Friday evening, carried out searches and stayed till about 3.30 a.m. (0130 GMT) Saturday, a police spokesman said.

Security forces also moved into Vosloorus, a troubled township east of Johannesburg early Saturday.

Acting within hours of an announcement invoking special

police powers to quell 12 days of vicious township war, officers make several arrests and seized many illegal weapons including homemade guns and pistols.

Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok Friday gave police virtually unlimited powers to enter homes and search and detain suspects. The police have immunity from prosecution for acts carried out in good faith.

More than 500 people have died in fighting between residents who support Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) and migrant workers of the Zulu-based Inkatha Movement led by chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Mandela, who met President F.W. De Klerk Friday, condemned the new powers as "totally useless".

He said the government had reimposed the state of emergency — largely lifted in June after four years — under another name. Such measures had been ineffective in the past and "led to an excuse for the police to abuse their rights," he said.

"The ANC was not consulted and we object to the principle of the government acting unilaterally on the question of resolving violence," he added.

Mandela was scheduled to leave South Africa later Saturday for a one-week trip to Norway

Colombian aide blames Americans for allowing cocaine into U.S.

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Colombia's attorney general has said that corrupt U.S. officials are allowing cocaine into the United States.

Attorney General Alfonso Gomez told foreign reporters that if drug traffickers bribe Colombian officials to let their cocaine-filled planes take off, they also pay off U.S. officials to let them land.

He said drug traffickers are able to smuggle 500 tons of cocaine a year to the United States because U.S. authorities are "either being bribed or God made them blind."

Gomez said that one of the biggest obstacles in the fight against drugs is corruption, both in Colombia and the United States.

Colombian cocaine traffickers have been blamed for killing some 500 people in the past year,

including three presidential candidates.

Gomez called Colombia's campaign to seize properties from the country's billionaire cocaine barons "a complete failure."

He said many of the ranches, airplanes, furniture, horses and jewels seized from alleged drug traffickers have been returned.

The problem is that Colombia began the seizures without developing an adequate judicial infrastructure to keep the confiscated property, Gomez said.

He said judges are often bribed or intimidated into returning confiscated goods.

During the past three weeks, security forces have seized 85 aircraft in southwestern Colombia suspected of having carried drugs and other contraband, an army spokesman said.

He said that since last August,

when the government began a major crackdown on drug trafficking, \$42 million in gold, platinum, silver and U.S. cash has been confiscated from alleged cocaine traffickers.

Most of it was found buried at drug traffickers' ranches.

Gomez noted the case of two police officials who fled Colombia last week with money seized from drug traffickers as an example of how corruption damages his country's anti-drug efforts.

Newspaper reports said the two fled with \$9 million. Gomez said investigators said they were not sure how much it was.

Aside from the killings, corruption is the highest price Colombia is paying in the drug war, Gomez said.

"The level of infiltration has been very high," he said.

Monkeys having great time in New York

NEW YORK (AP) — The city's wildest tourists are up from South America. They've enjoyed the cuisine and spent their nights swinging around town. They also have razor-sharp teeth, and can carry parasites and viruses.

They are 25 recently liberated squirrel monkeys, and they've turned a quiet neighbourhood in the Borough of Queens into a wild kingdom since they were stolen from a local business and turned loose three weeks ago.

"It's like vacationing in a far-away land," said Constance Quinn. "You look out the window and there's a monkey hanging on the wash line or swinging in the trees."

The monkey business began when the animals were swiped from South America Unlimited, which imports the primates and sells them to research laboratories. The thieves' apparent plans to peddle the monkeys to pet stores fell through, and they released the primates, police said.

Ever since, it's been monkeys in the middle of everything. They pop up in back yards, dangle from telephone wires, lead local

kids on wild chimp chases. One found a new home in Mrs. Quinn's garage.

"I walked out there, and the monkey was just sitting on the car," Mrs. Quinn said. "Then it started flying all over. It was just hysterical."

Her encounter with the monkey Monday has made Mr. Quinn somewhat of a celebrity. In addition to calls from reporters, she made an appearance Friday morning on a radio station.

"What part of Queens do you live in? The Amazon section?" the host asked her.

Actually, the Glendale section, which along with neighbouring Ridgewood is where the visitors are hanging out. The monkey in Mrs. Quinn's place escaped despite the best efforts of a policeman and a worker. Since then, two of the small brownish beasts have been recovered.

One was put to sleep because of the potential health risk; the other is safe and sound in an undisclosed location, said Kathi Travers, director of the American Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals facility at Kennedy International Airport.

The critters are as dangerous as they are adorable, Ms. Travers warned. They will bite if confronted, and they can carry dozens of dangerous diseases, including potentially fatal Hepatitis B.

But after spending their time in cages since leaving South America, the beasts are now busy living it up during their summer in the urban jungle.

"We're worried, but these monkeys are having a party," said Ms. Travers.

"They've discovered a smorgasbord of food: plenty of greenery, trees and flowers to munch on, along with the occasional spider or other insect. One homeowner already reported losing his backyard grape harvest to the monkeys."

But the good times will soon end, Ms. Travers warned. The monkeys thrive in the heat, but a New York winter would mean their demise: "Forget it. They'd have no shot," she said.

"They are cute and adorable, but they don't belong in the trees of New York," she said. "They belong in the trees of South America."

Romanian protesters disperse after fight with police

BUCHAREST (R) — Anti-government demonstrators chanting "down with communism" clashed with Romanian riot police in central Bucharest Friday during a six-hour confrontation.

Scuffles broke out, stones were thrown and the windows of several vehicles were smashed after police moved in to clear protesters from University Square and a boulevard, where they blocked traffic for a third successive night.

The demonstration underscored Romania's political instability since Stalinist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu was overthrown and executed last December.

At one point between 1,000 and 2,000 protesters demanding the resignation of President Ion Iliescu, an ex-Communist, faced off against about 1,000 Interior Ministry riot police.

The police drove groups of hard-core demonstrators, who had no obvious political affiliation, into side streets and by midnight (2100 GMT) the crowds had dispersed.

A major clash almost erupted when riot police knocked down a frail old lady who pushed through their lines to direct the crowd's chants like the conductor of an orchestra.

"Down with the Securitate," shouted the crowd, referring to Ceausescu's hated secret police. Many Romanians believe Iliescu's National Salvation Front government is still using the Securitate, Ceausescu's personal instrument of repression.

In a separate protest, engineers in the city of Brasov, north of Bucharest, went on strike, demanding a meeting with Prime Minister Petre Roman to discuss raw material shortages crippling factories and grievances over working conditions.

Roman and Iliescu have vowed to turn Romania into a market-economy democracy but have not managed to prevent the shortages which became chronic under Ceausescu. This week they reintroduced sugar rationing.

Iliescu was elected president in a landslide in May and the National Salvation Front won a big parliamentary majority. Worldwide protests rained on Iliescu in June after thousands of miners he summoned to Bucharest crushed anti-government protests by clubbing demonstrators on the streets.

"You are the miners, you are the miners," some of the demonstrators shouted at the police Friday night.

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